Stub for 1:2

AGRICULTURE LIBRARY, UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA

The SAN JOAQUIN LIGHT & POWER MAGAZINE

FOR

CONSUMERS AND EMPLOYEES

Published monthly by the
San Joaquin Light & Power Co

Vol. I January 1913 No. 1

Generated on 2024-07-26 23:07 GMT / https://hdl.handle.net/2027/uc1.b2869477
Public Domain, Google-digitized / http://www.hathitrust.org/access_use#pd-google

Digitized by Google

Original from
UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA

TK1
S2
v.1

A LIVE WIRE

IS THE MAN with a bank account. His pass book keeps a record for him of what he makes and what he spends, while his cancelled checks furnish a complete receipt for all paid bills. System in money matters start him to saving, and with a little money laid aside, he is ready for THE opportunity when it appears. Make your start with this strong, growing bank, and we will finance you.

First National Bank of Coalinga

KELMAN OIL SWITCHES

KELMAN OIL SWITCHES FOR HIGH VOLTAGE STATIONS AND TRANSMISSION LINES REPRESENT THE MOST MODERN IN ENGINEERING AND DESIGN.

FOR SWITCHING OR PROTECTION IN HIGH VOLTAGE SERVICE KELMAN OIL SWITCHES HAVE KEPT ABREAST OF THE HIGHEST DEVELOPMENT OF STATION CAPACITY. WRITE US TO SOLVE YOUR PROBLEMS.

PIERSON, ROEDING & CO. PACIFIC COAST AGENTS

KELMAN ELECTRIC & MFG. CO.

Los Angeles, Calif.

Generated on 2024-07-26 23:07 GMT / https://hdl.handle.net/2027/uc1.b2869477
Public Domain, Google-digitized / http://www.hathitrust.org/access_use#pd-google

Digitized by Google

Original from
UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA

San Joaquin Light and Power Magazine

CONTENTS FOR JANUARY

Photograph of Mr. A. G. Wishon ..... Frontispiece

Letter of Greeting ..... A. G. Wishon 3

The San Joaquin Light and Power Co. ..... A. E. Wishon 4

Success of Wasco Colony ..... John L. Gill 7

Building Transmission Lines to the Coast ..... L. N. Peart 11

Electricity in the Dairy ..... R. B. Mateer 16

Pranks of Recent Cold Snap 19

Old and New Hydro-Electric Equipment .....J. M. Buswell 21

New Automobiles for 1913 Campaign 24

Editorial 25

First Automobile on Mojave Desert 27

Fresno Office Force 28

Coast Counties Are Ready 30

The Latest Annexations ..... Jack Frost 31

News Around the Loop 34

Vol. I **No. I**

Generated on 2024-07-26 23:08 GMT / https://hdl.handle.net/2027/uc1.b2869477
Public Domain, Google-digitized / http://www.hathitrust.org/access_use#pd-google

Digitized by Google

Original from UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA

A. G. WISHON

General Manager San Joaquin Light and Power Corporation

Generated on 2024-07-26 23:09 GMT / https://hdl.handle.net/2027/uc1.b2869477
Public Domain, Google-digitized / http://www.hathitrust.org/access_use#pd-google

Digitized by Google

Original from
UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA

SAN JOAQUIN LIGHT & POWER MAGAZINE

VOL. I JANUARY 1913 NO. I

Mr. Wishon Sends His Greetings to the San Joaquin Light and Power Family

SAN JOAQUIN LIGHT & POWER CORPORATION
GENERAL OFFICE
FRESNO, CALIFORNIA

W. G. KERCKHOFF, Pres't.
A. C. BALCH, Vice Pres't.
A. G. WISHON, Gen'l. Mgr.

Jan 1st 1913

To the employees of the
San Joaquin Light and Power Corporation

The remarkable expansion of our service during the past year has caused a corresponding increase in the size of our family of employees, and no longer being able to greet each one of you personally, I wish you all, in this first issue of our Magazine, a very happy and prosperous new year; and I heartily thank you for your invaluable cooperation during the past year.

Your loyalty and faithful service has been a very large factor in the success made by the Company, and your continuous conscientious efforts and consideration of (the public) our customers, will help us much in our efforts to make 1913 the brightest year of our existance.

Thanking you in advance in anticipation of your continued harmonious and energetic efforts

I am sincerely Yours
A G Wishon

561351

Generated on 2024-07-26 23:09 GMT / https://hdl.handle.net/2027/uc1.b2869477
Public Domain, Google-digitized / http://www.hathitrust.org/access_use#pd-google

Digitized by Google

Original from UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA

The San Joaquin Light and Power Corporation; Its Past, Present and Future

By A. EMORY WISHON, Assistant General Manager

DEVELOPMENT of the San Joaquin Light and Power Corporation has been unique, since from the very start its success has depended entirely upon a campaign of education.

The starting of the original San Joaquin No. 1 Power Plant, sixteen years ago, marked an epoch in electrical development and also in the history of the San Joaquin Valley. It was the first plant to transmit electricity thirty-six miles. It was of 1450 kilowatt capacity, and served the towns of Fresno and Hanford. This plant was operated successfully, from mechanical and electrical standpoints, for eleven years before being replaced, but the original company met with financial reverses. In 1902 the present owners took the plant out of the hands of a receiver, and during the intervening period have built, from the old plant, the great system of the San Joaquin Light and Power Corporation as it stands today.

We cannot boast of serving the greatest cities and the most thickly populated districts of the Pacific Coast, but we do boast of covering and serving one of the most sparsely settled regions on the coast, yet one of the most fertile and most productive territories in the known world. The history and growth of the San Joaquin Valley goes hand in hand with the development and growth of the San Joaquin Light and Power Corporation, and while the development of the San Joaquin system has depended largely upon the growth of the San Joaquin Valley, we believe that the San Joaquin Light and Power Corporation has been as an important a factor in the growth of the San Joaquin Valley.

When the men who pioneered the present San Joaquin Company purchased the holdings of the old company in 1902, they inherited no cities, no densely populated areas, no factories, (and to the ordinary man), no extremely prospective territory. However, their intimate knowledge of the San Joaquin Valley, with its rich underground water supply, enabled them to see the great possibilities for electrical irrigation, which meant, not only the furnishing of power to the farmer, but as the country would be subdivided and settled, towns and cities would build, factories would start and in the general development and growth, the demand and different uses for electricity would increase.

It was upon this theory that the purchase of the original plant was made, that water-rights were acquired, and new construction work begun.

It is a serious undertaking to launch a campaign of education that necessitates the entire changing of the scheme of operation of the other man's business before he can use your commodity, and it is far more serious to undertake building over arid plains lines that must stand practically idle until the country develops. However, this is what was done and what has continued to be done since the purchase of the old No. 1 plant more than ten years ago.

That the campaign of education and the development of a business has proven successful goes without saying. Today, this infant company of a few years ago, furnishes light and power throughout ten counties; including fifty-eight cities and towns, it is serving 17,228 lighting customers, 1,475 power customers, 5,539 gas customers, and 6,895 water customers. In Bakersfield, we operate the street railway system, which railway system is ack-

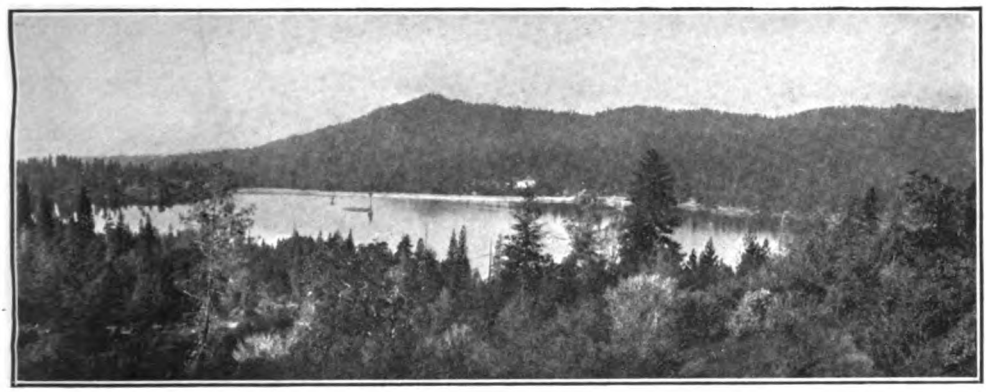
Generated on 2024-07-26 23:09 GMT / https://hdl.handle.net/2027/uc1.b2869477
Public Domain, Google-digitized / http://www.hathitrust.org/access_use#pd-google
Digitized by Google
Original from UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA

nowledged by authorities to be the best constructed, regardless of size, in the state.

From the very outset, the proposition of covering the San Joaquin Valley was in mind and the system has been built accordingly, so that with the present generating and distributing equipment we are giving a service to our customers so continuous and at such prices as to allow us to build even into the oil fields and to sell power for the pumping and drilling of the oil wells. The magnitude of the system, the class of machinery, equipment installed, and the talent that we can afford to employ are the essentials that make this possible.

San Joaquin of approximately 3,000 kilowatts. We have 655 miles of transmission lines and 1,650 miles of distribution lines, and during the present year we have in contemplation extensions of sufficient amount to double our present distribution system.

As we look over our regular pay roll of 986 names, and which, during construction periods, has reached 2,500, the size of the organization becomes impressive. However, our activities are only beginning. Our territory includes more than 5,000,000 acres of irrigable land, practically all depending upon pump irrigation. More reservoirs and power houses must be constructed and thousands more miles of distribution lines must be built. The



Crane Valley Lake, the Main Artery of Water Supply

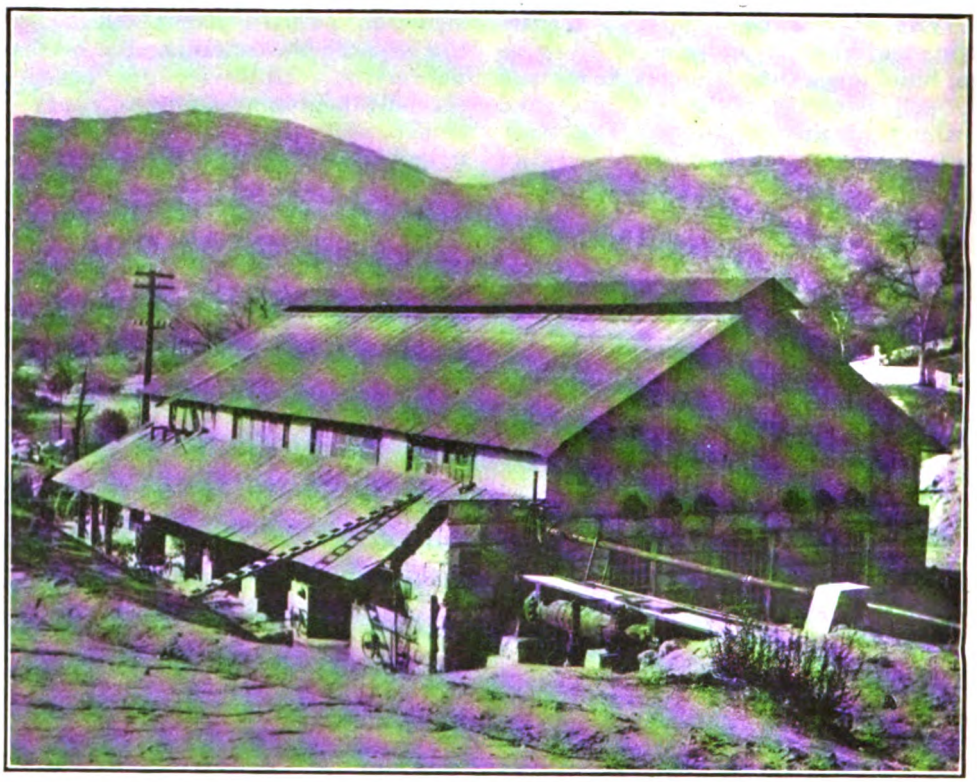
The Crane Valley Dam, completed about two years ago, impounds 51,000 acre feet and assures ample water supply even through the driest year. The old earthen ditches have been abandoned, and twenty-seven concrete lined tunnels, connected with concrete lined ditches and steel flumes, carry the water to our chain of power houses. The generating capacity has been increased until at the present time we have three hydro-electric plants and two steam plants, giving a total rated capacity of 27,500 kilowatts, or a 25 per cent overload capacity of 34,125 kilowatts, or a peak load capacity of 44,000 kilowatts. We have under construction the Tule River Plant of approximately 5,000 kilowatts and the No. 2 Plant on the North Fork of the

campaign of education and development is to continue, but the progress each year will be many times greater than any year preceding.

The expanding of the territory and the increase in the force required to carry on the operation of this system has made it necessary recently to reorganize. In order to keep close to the public and in touch with the development of the various parts of the system, sixteen different districts have been formed, each embracing a certain part of our territory and in each district an agent has been placed who has full charge of operation, construction, and new business. To be sure, the agent is not left unguided in his efforts but is carefully consulted and advised by the heads of the different

Generated on 2024-07-26 23:10 GMT / https://hdl.handle.net/2027/uc1.b2869477
Public Domain, Google-digitized / http://www.hathitrust.org/access_use#pd-google
Digitized by Google
Original from UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA

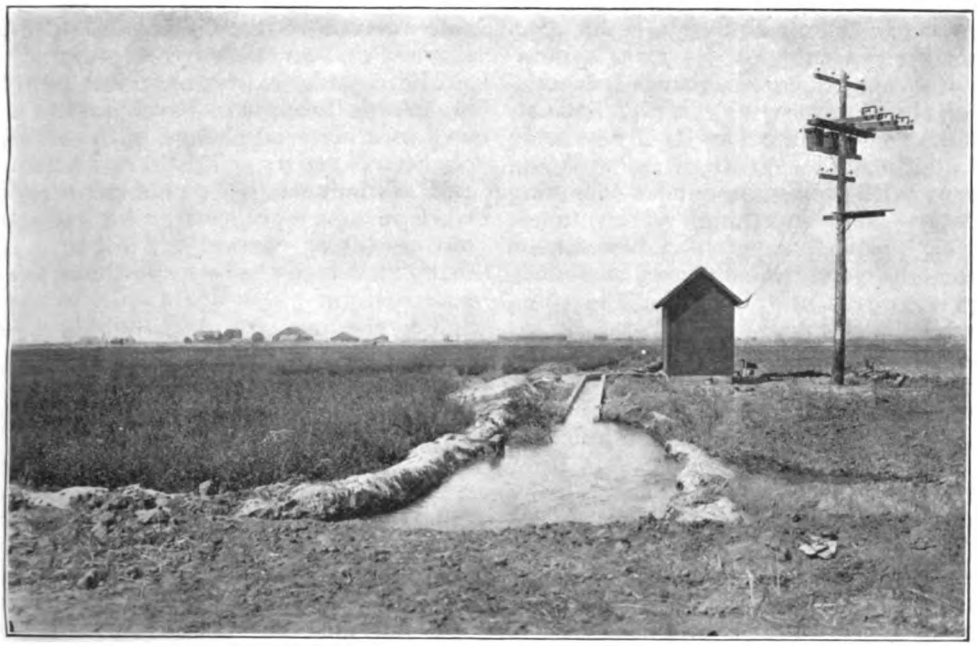
departments. The results of this plan of division have proven more than satisfactory. Every agent realizes the fact that it is he and the men whom he directs on the "firing line," who are largely responsible for the building up of a country and for the making of the prosperous communities that are springing up the entire length of our distribution lines.



The Old San Joaquin Power House, the First on the System, Now Abandoned

We attribute our success in the past, first to the men who financed the building of lines in an undeveloped territory and allowed their investment to stand without returns while such territory was being developed; second, to the fact that we have tried to keep close to the public; third, that our rates have been based upon reason and are universally regular and just; and lastly, but far from least, to the fact that our employees have worked, not for so many dollars and cents per day, but for the personal interest and pride they have in the growth of the San Joaquin Light and Power Corporation. Our future must depend, primarily, upon the same elements, but with 1,475 power customers being used daily by our agents as references for our prospective customers, and with each customer taking a personal pride in sending the name of his neighbor as a new customer, we feel that the serious part of the educational campaign has passed. With the influx of Eastern capital to the great, undeveloped west, and the lands of this great region still as rich in soil but becoming still more valuable each day, we can see nothing but prosperity for the future.

Generated on 2024-07-26 23:11 GMT / https://hdl.handle.net/2027/uc1.b2869477
Public Domain, Google-digitized / http://www.hathitrust.org/access_use#pd-google
Digitized by Google
Original from UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA



A Thirty Horsepower Plant Irrigating Alfalfa Field

Dreams of Wasco Colonists Are Realized By Adoption of Electric Power

By JOHN L. GILL, Editor San Joaquin Farmer

WASCO Colony is not Utopian but it is unique. It is a colony that is working out the aspirations and the day dreams of the landless in the cities. It is a colony that was sold in a day, a tract of nine sections of land that was taken in the rough and parceled out in five, ten and twenty-acre lots to dwellers in the centers of population who had heard the call of the wild. Its pioneers are men who longed for the scent of new mown hay; men whose primal instincts impelled them to get closer to mother earth. The land was all sold and sold at ridiculously low prices some five yearrs ago. It was a fateful day for the Boston bookkeeper, the New York cabinet finisher, the Milwaukee shop worker, the St. Paul engineer, the Los Angeles druggist, and when the preachers, the doctors, the tradesmen, the high and the low had gathered in this new Mecca, it was found that the colonists were a typical American lot and settlers of which any commonwealth would be proud. But their faces were toward the setting sun. New environments and new conditions confronted them. They were undaunted but inexperienced and the first few years cost many bitter disappointments. The land was arid, a semi-desert to be wrested from the sage brush and to be redeemed from the jackrabbits and squirrels. Horned toads and venemous snakes were contenders for the privilege of living on these lands. The colonists were real pioneers.

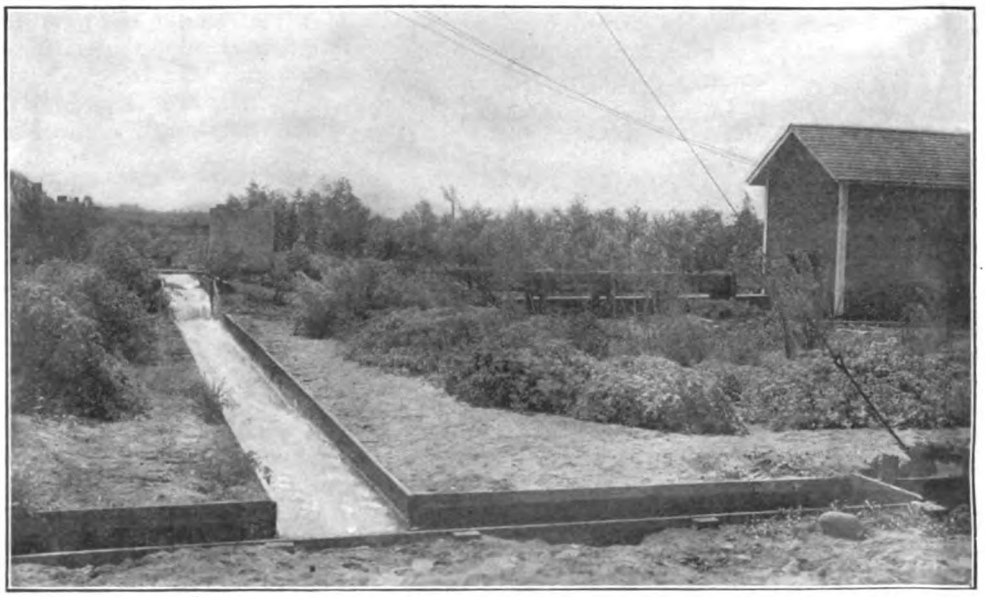
The writer was attracted to Wasco by the opportunity of establishing a colony newspaper. This was in the fall of 1911 and shortly after the advent of electrical pumping into the

Generated on 2024-07-26 23:11 GMT / https://hdl.handle.net/2027/uc1.b2869477
Public Domain, Google-digitized / http://www.hathitrust.org/access_use#pd-google
Digitized by Google
Original from UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA

district. The coming of the San Joaquin Light and Power Corporation's young men, with their transmission lines conveying power, had attuned the whole colony to a new song of optimism. Wasco was a young giant with limbs unbound. Whirring motors and splashing waters made sweet music that spread a benediction over the land, causing vegetation to spring up as if by magic. The wand of the fairies had been placed in the hands of the colonists. Wealth and opulence awaited on every side to be plucked from the soil that seemed to leap with very joy into vine and tree and growing plant. There was flowing water, water gushing in abundance from the subterranean channels underlying the entire colony. The electric pumps were working day and night, without holidays off and on every day in the year, lifting the water from a shallow depth for the farmers who hastened from task to task in planting, harvesting and garnering the crops from the land of promise. Here had come the consummation of the hopes of the dreamers. The dwellers of the cities, who had forsaken the ways of former days, were being rewarded and bumper crops became the rule instead of the exception in this favored district.

The coming of the electrical pumping plants brought a psychological as well as a material change in the affairs of the colonists. Mistakes, failures and the immense cost of experimental work in developing water for the colony system well-nigh discouraged many. When the electric juice was switched on there were still doubts and foreboding of future troubles The colony system water stock was so little valued that many had already let it go for delinquent assessments. We were informed that stock had been offered as low as fifty cents a share. But with the swelling flow of water the stock began to be sought and recent quotations place the value at $19 a share. Within the past few months the stock has sold for $15 a share in cash. So as the stock soared with the use of electric pumping, the spirits of the colonists went up in ratio.

The young men of the San Joaquin Light and Power Corporation are received as friends and associate workers in Wasco Colony when they visit the district. Banquets are given and the good farm wife joins her husband in spreading a feast before the wel-



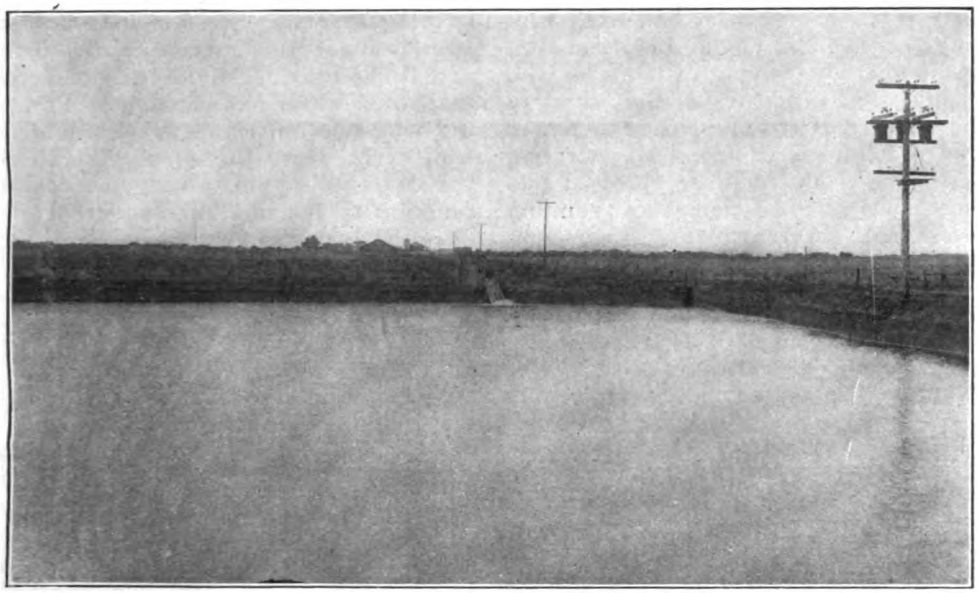
View Typical of Wasco Pump Irrigation System

Generated on 2024-07-26 23:11 GMT / https://hdl.handle.net/2027/uc1.b2869477
Public Domain, Google-digitized / http://www.hathitrust.org/access_use#pd-google
Digitized by Google
Original from UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA

come visitors. General Manager A. G. Wishon, too, likes to visit Wasco because of the good feeling and reciprocity of interests manifested between the colonists and the great power corporation. The Wasco colonists are appreciative and enthusiastic over pump irrigation and electrical power as a means to assure success.

Wasco Colony has absolutely proven the success of electric pump irrigation for general farming. It is a money-making proposition for the alfalfa grower as well as the fruit producer. The visual evidence is on every hand and the writer can testify that nowhere in the valley can greater abundance and variety be found. Everything seems to do well with pump irrigation. Garden truck, raised by white men, too, produced wonderful crops last season, and I might enumerate, celery, egg plant, tomatoes, sweet and Irish potatoes, cabbage, beans, peas, melons, and berries, as crops which I have seen growing more successfully in Wasco Colony than in any other portion of the valley. And it was electric pumping that produced the results. Grain hay crops were light all over the state last season. Even the best of canal water supply could not make abundant crops, but on the pump irrigated farms in Wasco, from two to four tons of grain hay was produced. First season alfalfa paid from $40 to $46 an acre and old fields made as high as fourteen tons to the acre, ten and twelve tons being the expectation as an average yield. Under canal water in the same district only two cuttings of alfalfa were secured, whereas five and six cuttings were made by the electric pumps.

The colony system of water costs about $2 a year an acre for the electric power, and then there is maintenance, ditch tenders, new work in way of installation of concrete canals, which in all brings the annual charge up to $5 an acre. The Wasco system differs from the McFarland system in that the water is pumped co-operatively instead of for individual plants. At McFarland, "heads" are secured by putting the water in reservoirs, while at Wasco the water is run direct into the ditches, "heads" being augmented by combining two or more streams from the several pumping plants. Direct pumping and concrete ditches save evaporation and seepage, thereby reducing the power cost, so that the Wasco colonists set up the claim of



A Twenty Horsepower Motor Keeps the Huge Reservoir Well Filled

Generated on 2024-07-26 23:12 GMT / https://hdl.handle.net/2027/uc1.b2869477
Public Domain, Google-digitized / http://www.hathitrust.org/access_use#pd-google
Digitized by Google
Original from UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA

having the model pump irrigation system of the San Joaquin Valley.

The battle for supremacy between the different forms of power, as applied to pumping in Wasco Colony, seems to have been won by the electrical power, although there are still many advocates of the gas engine. However, the tendency seems to be for the gas engine to find its way into the localities where the electrical lines do not give service. In Wasco the electrical power proved a saving in this way: With the advent of electricity the colony system was placed in charge of an electrician and a ditch tender, these two men replacing a force of nine men who had been running the gasoline engine plants at first installed. This saving of labor as well as increased efficiency is the secret of the whole battle. The electrical power was a labor saver for a co-operative system, thereby reducing the cost and increasing the efficiency of running the several different plants of the company. In all there are seven wells and these are located in different parts of the colony, the plants using fifteen to thirty horse-power, according to the volume of water lifted. Over eight cubic feet of water is produced, and this, running continuously, affords abundance of water for the 3,000 acres under cultivation and served by the company. The service is extended to colonists as fast as the need arises.

Wasco Colony has convinced me of the practicability of pump irrigation and made me so confident of its superiority that I would recommend it for the older settled districts of the valley. Pump irrigation would be worth millions to the Fresno district. It would lower the surface water level and bring into use thousands of acres that ditch water has damaged. Pumping will sweeten the sour soils and as well carry away the surplus alkali in the top soils, performing a double function of reclamation and crop production at the same time.

Seed Growing at Alpaugh Becomes Extensive Industry

Alpaugh, the thriving colony in Tulare county, is rapidly coming to the front as a seed producer. Last season many profitable shipments were made and the results encouraged the producers to plant on a larger scale. This season's shipments will be larger than heretofore. The first lot left Alpaugh the latter part of December and consisted of 25,815 pounds. The shipment was made up principally of melon and summer squash seeds. Onions and other of the most used vegetables are grown there especially for the seed. Michigan wholesale seed houses are the purchasers. The company is planning to plant 320 acres this season. Thirty acres will be planted to onion sets, ten acres to onion seed, ten acres to miscellaneous seed, and one hundred acres will be planted to tomatoes. The balance, consisting of 170 acres, will be planted to grain.

Uses Electricity to Augment Flow of Artesian Wells

A seven horse-power motor equipped to a 6-inch pump is to be used as an aid in increasing the output of the artesian wells on F. N. Johnson's dairy ranch near Corcoran. The output of the wells is not sufficient for the general use of the ranch and by combining with the electric forces, Mr. Johnson expects to have all the water necessary.

Generated on 2024-07-26 23:13 GMT / https://hdl.handle.net/2027/uc1.b2869477
Public Domain, Google-digitized / http://www.hathitrust.org/access_use#pd-google
Digitized by Google
Original from UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA

Building the San Joaquin Light and Power Transmission Lines to the Coast

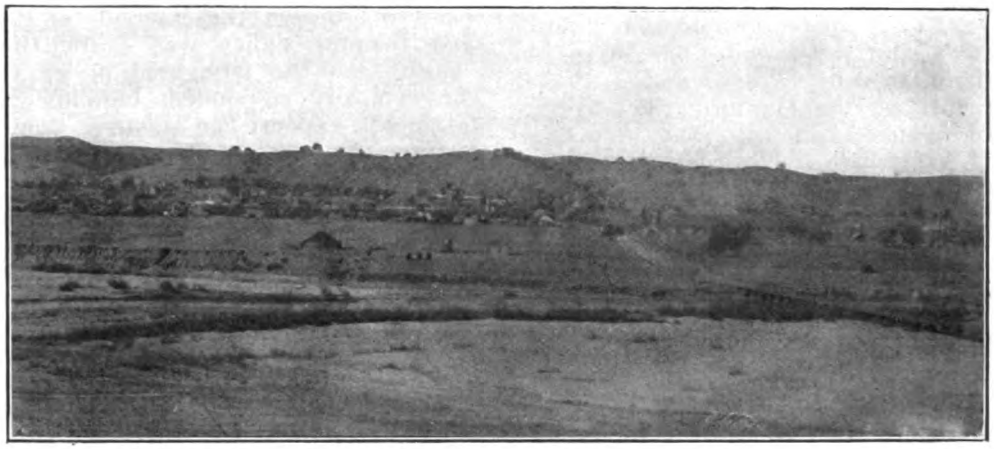
By L. N. PEART, General Superintendent

THE history of the San Joaquin Light and Power Corporation is one of steady growth. Ten years ago its transmission system was limited to a thirty-five mile line from the mountains to Fresno, and a branch feeder serving Hanford. The voltage of transmission at that time was 17,000, which today is obsolete and is only a little greater than that in common use for distributing purposes. With the advent of a second power house and the raising of the line potential to 30,000, the transmission system was increased practically one hundred per cent. Its growth occurred during 1905 and 1906. To those in charge of the corporation, the responsibilities seemed at that time to have increased 500 per cent. The company, however, was only extending lines in country that had not been covered, and no thought was entertained of entering territory where other plants existed. Then came the absorption of other systems to the north and the south, which have placed the San Joaquin Light and Power Corporation on the map from Merced to Bakersfield. In order to tie together these isolated plants and obtain the economy of centralized operation, more transmission lines were constructed. This period saw the building of the sturdy west 60,000 volt trunk line to Bakersfield, starting near the power house in the Sierra Nevadas at the north and skirting Tulare Lake on the west. The route was planned to eventually serve numerous pumping plants in the Kings River Delta at Summit Lake and passes directly through the heart of the Midway Oil Fields. At this time also, the valuable farming lands to the west and north of Fresno, embracing the Mendota Lands, and the dairying country surrounding Los Banos, were calling for power, and the transmission network was again extended to furnish the necessary relief. Not to be outdone by its central and western brothers, the east side of the San Joaquin Valley was calling for "more" and the farsighted policy of the company responded, building at no small expense an eastern trunk 60,000 volt line to balance the western and central supply. This eastern line will shortly be completed into Bakersfield from the power house, resulting in a complete loop of power from Fresno to Bakersfield. To those who appreciate the value of a "ring" system, this method of electric power distributing will appeal strongly.

In ten years the San Joaquin Light and Power system has developed from a small local plant, distributing in two counties, to an extensive network, spreading from Merced on the north to Tehachapi on the south, and serving irrigation plants at the foot of the Sierras on one side of the valley and pumping fuel oil in the foothills at the other side. It was natural, when more lines were projected to cross the mountains and supply towns near the Pacific, that a new interest was aroused in the San Joaquin Light and Power ranks. Everyone talked of our new coast line. This departure of the valley service to coast transmission and distribution was inaugurated in the early part of 1912, and all plans were made and material ordered so that actual work was well under way during the late summer and fall. The natural route for the new line was across the plains to Coalinga and thence across the range into Monterey County, emerging into the Salinas Valley at a point three miles above the historic town of San Miguel. It was planned to tap the 60,000 volt

Generated on 2024-07-26 23:13 GMT / https://hdl.handle.net/2027/uc1.b2869477
Public Domain, Google-digitized / http://www.hathitrust.org/access_use#pd-google
Digitized by Google
Original from UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA

loop at Henrietta sub-station, near Tulare Lake, and thereby obtain the advantage of a double source of supply, either from the hydro-electric plants at Crane Valley, or the steam turbines at Bakersfield. From this supply point, the coast line parallels the present transmission line feeding the Coalinga Oil Fields for a distance of about twenty-five miles. Leaving Coalinga, the route is approximately that of the Priest Valley road up the Alcalde Canon for about six miles. The ruggedness and peculiar geological formation of the oil field territory gave some new and interesting problems in line building. The road was too crooked to follow closely and in some cases the opinions of the property holders, relative to rights of way, made us change our ideas of ideal line routes. In crossing from bluff to bluff, spans of 1400 feet to 700 feet were employed, and the silvery outline of the aluminum cables in mid-air are really an addition to the landscape. Climbing the incline of the highest range, the line route follows the general route of an old road, which aided considerable when delivering material, and it now proves a valuable asset for patrol. One sugar loaf peak, more prominent than others over which the line passes, was christened Telephone Hill, because even in these isolated foothills the settlers have a farmers line and a scrawny limb stuck in the ground at the very peak serves as a telephone pole. At the top of the range, the line passes over rolling country and skirts the country of the Stone Canon Coal Mine. Particularly bad ground was encountered in this neighborhood, whole sides of the mountain giving evidence of "sloughing" and presenting absolutely no safe footing for a pole line. In this ground particular care was taken to locate poles in piles of rock, sacrificing alignment for security. After passing the coal mine property, which is near the top of the mountain, the line swings into a wooded canon, known as Buzzard's Canon, which is a much shorter route than that followed by the regular county road. Emerging from this canon, the county road is followed in the main to a point ten miles from San Miguel where another short cut is taken advantage of across a low saddle of a small range.



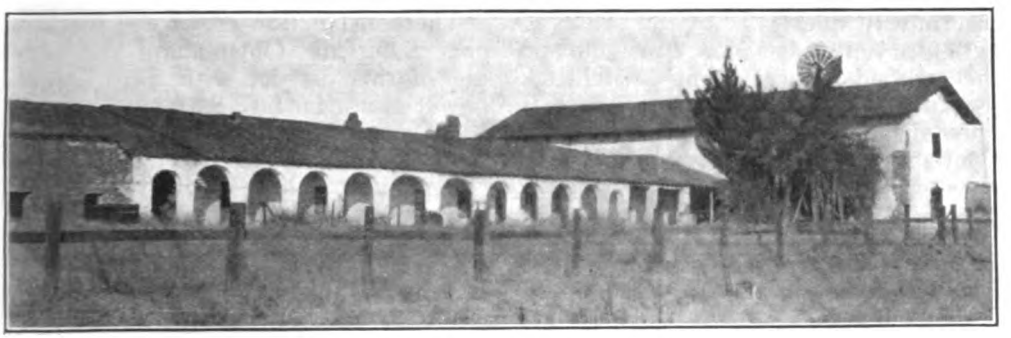
Birdseye View of the Town of San Miguel From the Bluff Upon Which the Sub-station is Built

Approaching San Miguel, a person is struck with the beauty of the high bluffs on the east side of the Salinas River. The town is on the west side and its old mission is plainly visible from quite a distance. In planning the line and station for the San Miguel district, it was thought best to keep them all on the east side of the river rather than crossing with both transmission and distributing circuits. From the accompanying illustrations a very fair idea is obtained of the nat-

Generated on 2024-07-26 23:13 GMT / https://hdl.handle.net/2027/uc1.b2869477
Public Domain, Google-digitized / http://www.hathitrust.org/access_use#pd-google
Digitized by Google
Original from UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA

ural beauty of the sub-station location. A spacious and well-made cottage has been built for attendants' use and the location would arouse the enthusiasm of the most callous real estate shark. Lines have been built from this sub-station across the river which are serving the town with lights and power. The local plant, which formerly supplied San Miguel, is a gas engine direct current outfit and has been out of commission since December when the San Joaquin Light and Power service was installed. The gas engine operator had his doubts at first as to the efficiency of the alternating current and was especially troubled to see some of his direct current instruments act as well under alternating influence as they did under direct. He had prophesied differently, and consequently changed his ideas after our plant was in operation.

Leaving San Miguel the general route of the line is along the Salinas River on the bluffs of the east side. The towns of Paso Robles, Templeton and Santa Margarita are being wired and poles set for distribution.



San Miguel Mission, Erected in 1772

Paso Robles has had electric service for some years and the old steam plant near the river succumbed as did the San Miguel plant. The distribution system in the town was toned up in a few places and arrangements were made to operate the city water pumps electrically from our power lines.

Through the Salinas Valley, from Paso Robles south about 20 miles, the transmission pole line traverses a moderately wooded country and is on private right of way the entire distance. Several large ranches are passed through, the Santa Ysabel, Henry and Santa Margarita. These are historic tracts comprising individual Spanish land grants taken up in early days. The ranch owned by Mr. Henry is probably better known as the Atascadero Ranch. During the last summer this patriotic gentleman turned his extensive ranch over to the state militia for carrying on their field maneuvers. The new state highway will traverse the entire length of it and our transmission line will be on the west edge skirting the low foothills. These ranches are rather heavily wooded with stately oaks and mountain pine, but the line was laid out in such a course as to avoid considerable timber and consequent tree cutting. Passing over the relatively level floor of the Santa Margarita Ranch, the line climbs into the divide known as Cuesta Pass, about eight miles north of and one-quarter mile higher than San Luis Obispo.

Here was some of the most difficult line building encountered on the whole route. The brush is thick and nearly impassible. The sides of the mountain are steep and not easily accessible for the delivery of heavy pole line material. The well traveled road of the Cuesta grade is on the west side of the gorge, the pole line survey on the east. In delivering fifty-foot poles, which weigh over half a ton, the foreman used some ingenious methods. In some places the poles were pulled up the hill by block and tackle to their

Generated on 2024-07-26 23:13 GMT / https://hdl.handle.net/2027/uc1.b2869477
Public Domain, Google-digitized / http://www.hathitrust.org/access_use#pd-google
Digitized by Google
Original from UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA

proper stake; in other places the poles were hauled a roundabout way to the top of and along the ridge and then lowered down the steep hill side to the proper place. The only compensating feature of hill side line work is the fact that if the hill is steep enough it takes little effort to raise the pole to a vertical position in the hole. However, the cost of delivery and time lost reaching such scenic ramparts is not offset by the slight advantage.

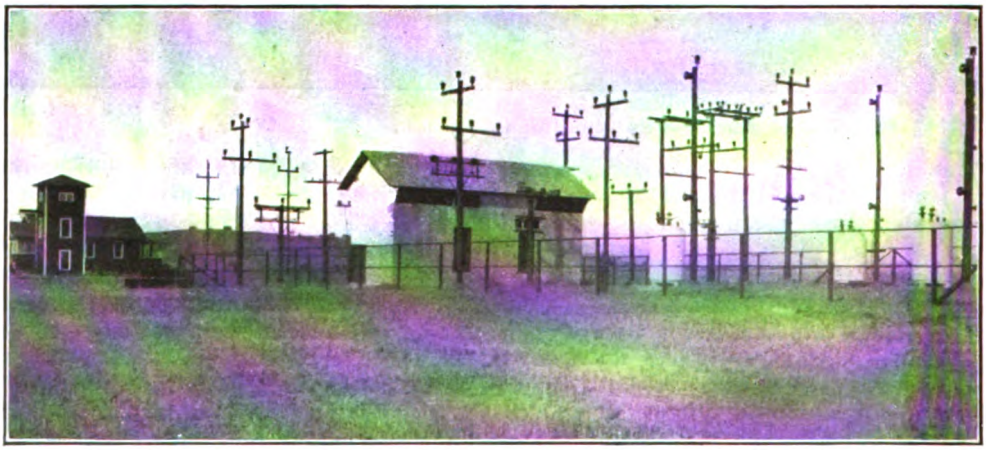
In order to avoid certain complications from interference with telephone lines and right of way difficulties, the transmission line no sooner gets well down in the Cuesta Pass than it starts out again, climbing directly over a backbone ridge that forms one side of the pass. This ridge is occupied on both sides by tracks and tunnels of the Southern Pacific Railway. In crossing it advantage was taken of the tunnels to avoid overhead crossing of the transmission wires with the tracks. The signal and telephone wires were guarded by placing two poles relatively close together supporting the transmission wires so that in the event of failure no power wires could foul the railway lines.

Before entering San Luis Obispo the railroad makes a long switchback to avoid heavy grades and this loop is crossed in two places by the pole line. Coming in from the north the transmission wires enter the city at the

Midway Cottage Showing Type of Residence erected for District Agents and Operators

west edge near the steam plant, and passing through the city proper, feed the San Luis Obispo substation. This station is similar to the San Miguel plant, except that a spare station transformer is on hand serving as a guard to all three coast plants. It is stored at this station as being the most central for quick delivery in case of trouble at any of the three main distributing points. The company's holdings in San Luis Obispo comprise an entire city block, which allows ample space for an outdoor sub-station without crowding the present steam plant building or the gas works.

The construction crews are working near San Luis Obispo and the serving of this district with San Joaquin power is not far off. So far no attempt has been made to rush work on that part of the line between San Luis Obispo and Santa Maria, nor on the



San Miguel Sub-station With District Agent's Residence and Tower House on the Left

Generated on 2024-07-26 23:13 GMT / https://hdl.handle.net/2027/uc1.b2869477
Public Domain, Google-digitized / http://www.hathitrust.org/access_use#pd-google
Digitized by Google
Original from UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA

Santa Maria sub-station, as material deliveries were barely sufficient for the work in the Paso Robles section. However, at this writing the prospect is good for an early completion of our 60,000 volt trunk line into the terminal station at Santa Maria.

In the building of the Coast Line and stations, the regular construction forces of the San Joaquin Light and Power Corporation were actively engaged. The preliminary and final surveys for pole line were carried on under the direction of Wm. Stranahan. Portions of the survey were staked out for poles by H. C. Maxon. The rights of way were handled by E. D. Farrow, Jr., and A. M. Frost. The construction gangs were under the direct supervision of J. E. Burgess, and his orders were carried out by G. R. Stebbins, Mark Webster, C. V. Hurley, and J. C. McCullough. At San Miguel, W. R. Wheaton erected and operated the pole treating plant and cross-arm mill which supplied material for the line building. At the home office in Fresno the services of D. P. Mason were fully occupied in keeping an intelligent record of the entire work in all its phases. Due consideration must also be given to various employees and agents of the company who assisted in the work by rendering many small favors to the construction forces which materially assisted in the completion of the work.

More Service for the Growing West Side

Requisitions have been placed for all materials to be used in the construction of a sub-station and cottage that will be located on our west 60,000 volt line, one mile east of Raisin City. This station should be operating within the next sixty days.

Distribution lines will run from this station north, south, east and west, serving pumping plants in the surrounding country. The towns of Raisin City, Caruthers, Riverdale, and Lanare will be served. This district gives promise of being one of the greatest pumping districts on our system, there being a large area, without any water rights, where water may be obtained from wells with a very slight lift. In the Summit Lake country even where land has water rights, much pumping is to be done, as the two past years have proven to the farmer that on land of from $150 to $250 per acre value, he cannot afford to take any chance with his crop yield. Crops now may be regulated by the amount of water put upon the ground and the electrical pumping plant is the key to the situation.

A San Joaquin Valley County Leads State in Butter Making

According to the 1912 report of the State Dairy Bureau, Stanislaus county leads the state in the production of butter by a wide margin. The total output of this county last year was 6,894,225 pounds. Humboldt, in the northern part of the state, came second in butter production with a record of 5,095,014 pounds. This is considered a great triumph by the Stanislaus butter makers. In 1911 Humboldt lead them all in production, but during the year just ended the Stanislaus industry took a great boost and gained in production more than 1,500,000 pounds.

Generated on 2024-07-26 23:14 GMT / https://hdl.handle.net/2027/uc1.b2869477
Public Domain, Google-digitized / http://www.hathitrust.org/access_use#pd-google
Digitized by Google
Original from UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA

Electricity in the Dairy and Conservation of the Products of the Farm

By R. B. MATEER, in Journal of Electricity, Power and Gas

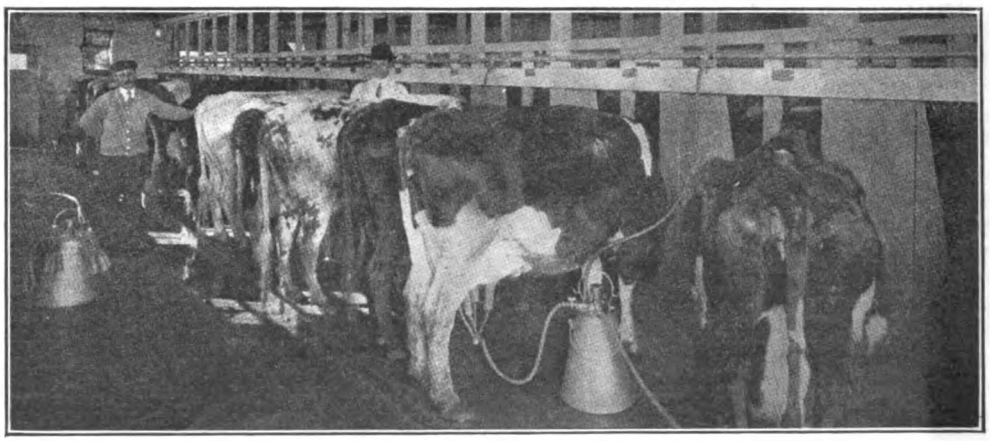
THE dairy on many of the large ranches is susceptible to economical operation by the use of the small motor and to a greater degree than any other portion of the farm where manual labor was at one time a necessity

In the search for labor saving devices, many practical motor applications resulted, securing to the farmer maximum economy. Compare, if you please, the former method of milking cows, the tiresome and continuous opening and closing of the fingers, the uncomfortable position of the milker and the lack of sanitary surroundings, with the now successful milking machine, its cleanliness, its ease of operation and the reduction of hired help, rendering the dairyman independent. Under ordinary conditions, the labor saved aggregated from thirty to forty per cent and permits of the employment of more responsible and better salaried men.

One of the successful milking machines consists of the can or receptacle and the machine. The milking machine consists of a cover which fits air tight on the receptacle by the use of a small rubber gasket. Mounted on the cover is a frame, a pair of vacuum pumps and two double valves. The pumps are operated through a crank shaft and a small electric motor. Connected with the shaft is a drive which places the double valves in motion. A small gauge indicates the degree of vacuum in the can and a needle valve under the small gauge controls and regulates the amount of vacuum necessary to milk the cows. Attached to the double valve is a rubber tubing and the teat cups. It is claimed that in an hour's time 30 cows can be milked, yet a conservative estimate, when the labor of the man who removes the milk is considered, would be from 10 to 12 cows per hour.

The milk secured is then separated. A machine with a capacity of 1300 pounds per hour and operating on a 1½ horse-power motor requires only 0.0386 kilowatt hours per 100 pounds.

Again where it is desired to market dairy products the churn may be used, and at a comparatively small cost a



Electrically Operated Milking Machine

Generated on 2024-07-26 23:14 GMT / https://hdl.handle.net/2027/uc1.b2869477
Public Domain, Google-digitized / http://www.hathitrust.org/access_use#pd-google
Digitized by Google
Original from UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA

fancy table article produced. A 100 gallon churn belted to a motor of two horse-power capacity requires approximately 0.617 kilowatt hours per 100 pounds at a cost of $0.01851 exclusive of labor and depreciation or $0.24 for churning and working the butter, when such cost items as labor, etc., are included. From this it is evident that electric service is not alone the servant of the large dairyman, but also of the small ranchman.

Conservation

Thousands of acres are planted with bearing trees of many varieties and an equal number of acres are producing vegetables such as potatoes and beets, the yield per acre surpassing the average season's consumption. Shall the fruit go to waste, the vegetables decay, or will the surplus be utilized so as to produce a food for man and cattle? It is possible to treat the product so as to yield a marketable commodity?

Few farmers consider the beet as growing a leaf, which, properly dried, is an excellent food for cattle, and until a few years ago, the content of sugar in the beet was unknown, yet today thousands of acres of beets of a sugar content of from 12 to 20 per cent are grown, and beet sugar is as popular as that of cane.

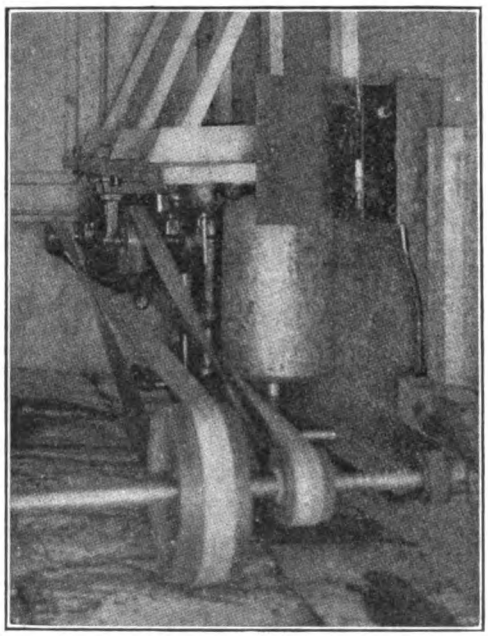
Potatoes may be cleansed, dried, peeled, cut into cubes and dried again, a feasible method of overcoming waste.

Fruits and grapes that are solid, and showing no trace of decay, are carefully packed and shipped to other markets; but is it fair to nature that the bruised fruit should be permitted to waste? Apple cider or grape juice finds a ready market and returns a reasonable profit on the investment necessary for the electrically operated press.

Fruits may be cured and a delicious flavor retained where easily regulated electrical heating elements are installed.

Again, all fruits are rich in sugar, containing from 5 to 30 per cent, a by-product, if you wish, readily obtained from fruit which may not be selected for shipment. Through the use of electrically operated apparatus, even a fair profit accrues to the farmer by the sales of his grapes, in order that the sugar content may be utilized instead of permitting the fruit to dry on the vine and waste, possibly due to the sluggish market for wine and alcoholic by-products. Even when the juices are extracted, the pumace, often wasted, is valuable as a fertilizer for the soil.

Many vegetables grown in large quantities and resulting in an over production may on analysis yield to a mechanical process, which returns in other forms a profit greatly in excess of that contemplated when the seed was placed in the soil.



Motor Operating Vacuum Pump for Milking Machine

Consider again, if you will, the potato, even the leaves of which vegetable, when dried, are an excellent food for cattle destined for the market, by reason of the fattening qualities possessed by the dried leaf.

Conservation of our resources has heretofore related only to our natural supplies, such as timber and mineral wealth, yet may it not be of equal or more importance that investigation be made with a view of utilizing for food-

Generated on 2024-07-26 23:14 GMT / https://hdl.handle.net/2027/uc1.b2869477
Public Domain, Google-digitized / http://www.hathitrust.org/access_use#pd-google
Digitized by Google
Original from UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA

stuffs the vegetable and its leaf, distilled products or utilizing it for food instead of applying the torch? Agriculture is not the robbing of the soil of her best, but in applying scientific principles, which convert even the worst growth to a marketable by-product. To accomplish results, of this character, electrically operated apparatus is necessary that the cost per unit of by-product be such as to allow a good margin of profit. Descriptions of apparatus for farm purposes might continue as long as human intelligence and ingenuity constantly strive to provide the farmer with appliances with which to reduce to a minimum of expense the labor, at one time necessary, to produce his crop, and how to utilize the surplus in by-products, or conserve it for future use.

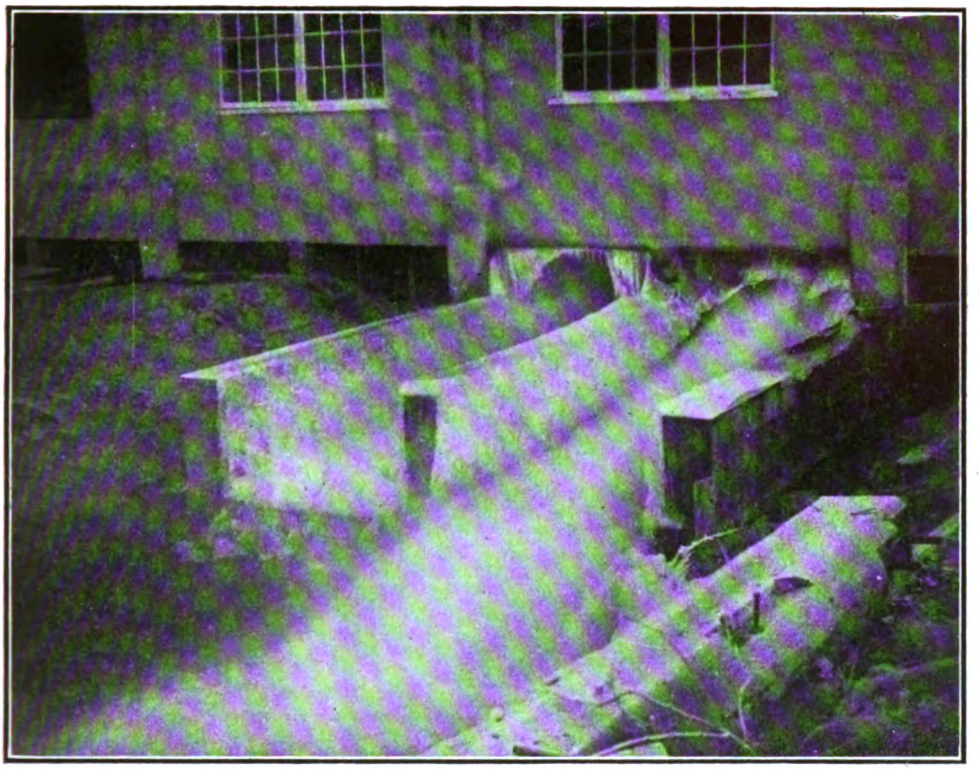
Many New Pumping Plants in Vicinity of Le Grand

Near Le Grand, R. Casad, the San Joaquin Light and Power Corporation's Merced agent, reports the installation of a number of fine new pumping plants. Paul Neuman is now operating a 10 horse-power plant and he is well satisfied with the results. Mrs. N. S. McSwain and Miss N. P. Price, two Merced county ladies who are very much interested in agriculture and are personally developing property, have installed a pump with a 5 horse-power motor and reservoir, from which they will irrigate about 90 acres. Joseph Vashe, near Athlone, is now operating a 10 horse-power and pump which is emptying into a spacious reservoir. R. Casad is himself a firm believer in the future of the county and recently with several associates, purchased eighty acres near Le Grand. They have let the contract for the planting of thirty acres in alfalfa and this work is now under way. A 5 horse-power pumping plant and a large reservoir will be installed and it is the intention of the owners to make this an up-to-date alfalfa ranch.

Government Soil Map Makers in Merced County

Merced county is the scene of soil observations now being made by the agricultural department of the United States government. Two soil experts are working in that county. They will make soil tests of every forty acres in Merced except the land in the extreme western part of the county, which is not used for agricultural purposes. Samples procured by the experts will be sent to Washington for analysis. Complete reports on every piece of land tested will be made and these reports will be utilized in compiling a map which will show what every forty acre piece is best adapted to. When complete, the maps will be distributed by the Department of Agriculture at Washington upon request of prospective settlers and other interested persons.

Generated on 2024-07-26 23:14 GMT / https://hdl.handle.net/2027/uc1.b2869477
Public Domain, Google-digitized / http://www.hathitrust.org/access_use#pd-google
Digitized by Google
Original from UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA



Water From No. 1 Wheel Flowing Out Over Frozen Tail Race, the Concrete Sides Canopied and Several Inches Deep With Ice

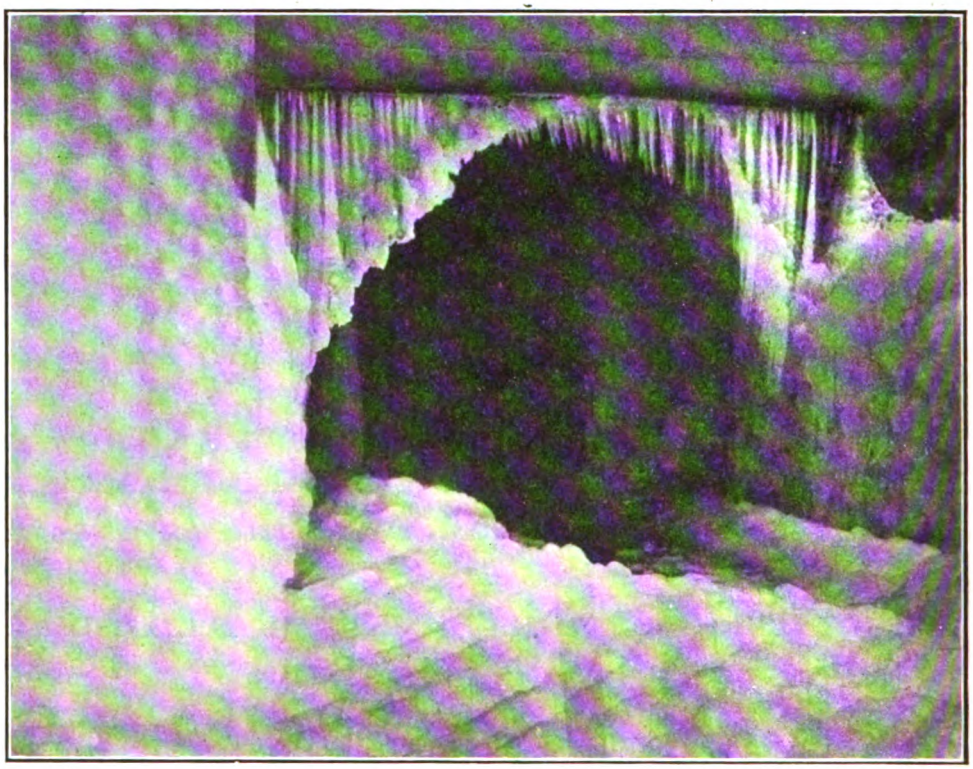
Recent Cold Snap Made Beautiful Ice Display at San Joaquin Plant

THAT the boys on the lines get their full share of the beautiful California weather in all of its degrees was impressively emphasized during the historic cold spell early this month, and particularly so to the crew of the San Joaquin power house. During the summer months this spot on the San Joaquin river bank becomes somewhat warm and, in designing the new building, provision was made for double walls with an intervening air chamber so as to keep the temperature in the house as low as possible, at this particular time of the year. Air chambers were not necessary to lower the mercury a few weeks since, as the pictures on this page bear witness. They were taken when the thermometer stood but a few degrees above the zero mark. The spray, from the water rushing through the tail races after leaving the water wheels of the big generators, has been frozen presenting a sight as beautiful as it is unusual.

The recent storm caused hardship in the mountain operating division and Elmer Gates, the superintendent of the Crane Valley division, had an experience he will not soon forget. Making his way over a path, every inch of which is known to him by months of daily travel on it, he be-

Generated on 2024-07-26 23:14 GMT / https://hdl.handle.net/2027/uc1.b2869477
Public Domain, Google-digitized / http://www.hathitrust.org/access_use#pd-google
Digitized by Google
Original from UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA

came lost in the snowstorm that raged on the mountain the night of January 7th. At 11 o'clock he was called to Power House No. 3, about seven miles above the San Joaquin plant, and he immediately set out on foot. It had been snowing since four o'clock in the afternoon. The trail was entirely obliterated and even though the night was dark with the storm, the superintendent thought he knew his ground so well he could not become lost. He was mistaken, however, and after a stubborn battle with snow banks for almost five hours, he finally reached the upper power house. Under ordinary circumstances he travels the distance in less than two hours.



Icicles Hanging From the Power House Floor and the Tail Race Filled With Ice

Valley Affords a Great Opportunity for Dairymen

One dairy cow to the acre is the slogan of the California dairymen. This means that the dairy business is three times as profitable in this state as in the East. Most Eastern dairymen figure on the basis of one cow to three acres. Colonization experts are investigating the dairy industry in the San Joaquin Valley and they have expressed the opinion that this profitable business will receive a great impetus within the next few years. Dairymen in Tulare and Kings counties have been receiving big returns.

Generated on 2024-07-26 23:15 GMT / https://hdl.handle.net/2027/uc1.b2869477
Public Domain, Google-digitized / http://www.hathitrust.org/access_use#pd-google
Digitized by Google
Original from UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA

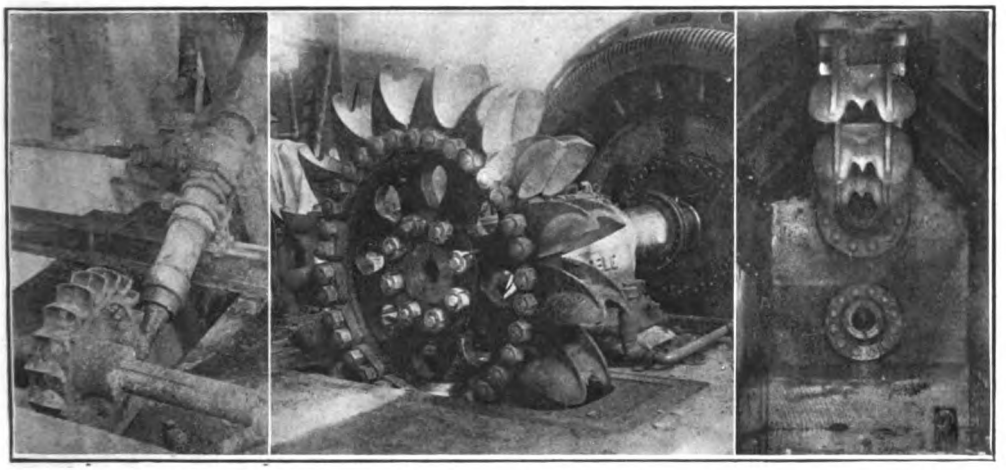
A Glimpse at Old and New Hydro-Electric Equipment Shows Wonderful Progress

By J. M. BUSWELL, Chief Inspector

THE trend of civilization toward higher and bigger things has made demand on the professions for development of new processes, principally of production and distribution. It has demanded the solving of problems for the elimination of faults and losses which were barriers to progress. Research work carried on by scientists and engineers, specializing in the various lines of endeavor, has produced a wealth of knowledge in the last twenty years, knowledge that has opened the way for development and improvement.

We are, by the use of serums, cured or made immune from diseases not understood a few years ago. Once our forefathers scratched patches of meadow land to eke out a small living, having first lost scores of their comrades on the deserts which they attempted to cross in quest of nature watered valleys beyond; and now witness the intense agricultural developments carried on scientifically on these same deserts.

An attempt was made to create a self propelled vehicle, but no progress was made until a method of economical and direct utilization of the energy in the combustion of gasoline vapor was developed. After that the production of bigger and better automobiles each year has required the study of many new processes.



The Old and New Hydro-Electric Generating Wheel. A Wheel in the First San Antonio Plant on the Left and One in the New San Joaquin, in Center

Men saw the first electric lamp and out of research laboratories they developed the efficient tungsten filament lamp, although it came only after the discovery of a substance unknown before. Also when, only a few years ago, an electric generator was arranged to be driven by a modification of the ancient miller's water wheel, a period of development was well started which has resulted so far in the building of gigantic generators driven by water wheels and steam turbines, the proportions of which are equally immense.

Generated on 2024-07-26 23:15 GMT / https://hdl.handle.net/2027/uc1.b2869477
Public Domain, Google-digitized / http://www.hathitrust.org/access_use#pd-google
Digitized by Google
Original from UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA

The San Antonio Plant as it Appears Today

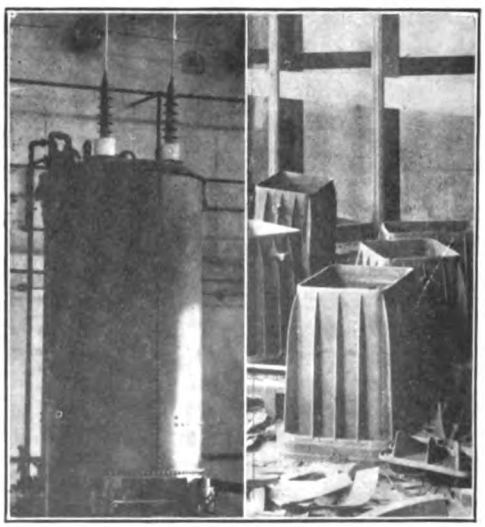
About twenty-five years ago one of California's first hydro-electric plants was built in the San Antonio Canyon in Southern California. There were about fifty transformers, some of the first transformers built, used to step-up the voltage to 10,000 volts. The transmission at that voltage was about seven miles, the line being built of small sawed poles and the insulators made of a clear glass.

In 1896 the San Joaquin Light and Power Company built a hydro-electric plant near North Fork on the San Joaquin River. The head was a little less than 1400 feet. There were three generators, having a total capacity of 1050 kilowatts, each generator having a complement of three transformers, stepping up the generator voltage from 700 to 17,000 and the transmission line to Fresno was 36 miles. The difference between these plants meant rapid progress in those days, and the accompanying photographs, which contrast the water wheels and transformers of the San Antonio plant with the modern equipment of the new San Joaquin No. 1 plant, vividly describe the advancement to the present day type.

The principle of the San Antonio water wheel is understood at a glance. The water wheel on one of the 4,000 kilowatt generators in the new San Joaquin plant, is shown in two views. The central picture shows the casing removed, exposing the water buckets. The picture on the right was taken in the pit showing the buckets in position for contact with the water. Two nozzles are seen in the background. The upper, or main nozzle, is operated by a governor. The lower nozzle is a by-pass and opens when the main nozzle closes, thus removing the water from the wheel without shock to the pipe lines. Automatic mechanism gradually closes the lower nozzle so that the water may be conserved when the wheel is not in use. There a e four of these huge wheels in the San Joaquin power house.

The modern day transformer performs the service many fold that fifty and sixty of the original type were called upon for. In the San Joaquin plant there are twelve of this type in operation and one held in reserve for emergency use.

With the development and improvement in efficiency of electrical machinery and because of the rapid increase in application of electric power in manufacturing, irrigation, oil well development and other industries, the size and efficiency of generation and distribution systems has been increased and systems exist today undreamed of in the days of the San Antonio project. Today generators are built which have a capacity of 25,000 kilowatts and massive three-phase transformers are built for 150,000 volts having a capacity of more



The New 60,000 Volt Transformer and the First Type Used in the State

Generated on 2024-07-26 23:19 GMT / https://hdl.handle.net/2027/uc1.b2869477
Public Domain, Google-digitized / http://www.hathitrust.org/access_use#pd-google
Digitized by Google
Original from UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA

than 10,000 kilowatts. Great steam turbines are built to develop 35,000 horsepower. Water wheels of large capacity can be successfully operated under a head of 2,000 feet. In the development of this large equipment, the combining of great mechanical strength, high electrical insulation, proper operating characteristics and high efficiency are the important requirements, and as the abnormal stresses obtaining under numerous possible abnormal conditions are very serious, they must be considered in the design of equipment and also in the operation of it.

Considerable careful watchfulness and exhaustive, accurate investigation of seemingly trivial things will prevent much loss of efficiency, failure in, or damage to apparatus, and possibly loss of life. We could not demand of manufacturers a greater degree of efficiency and perfection in equipment than that which we maintain in our system for generating and delivering our product to our consumers.

San Joaquin Power for the Town of Livingston

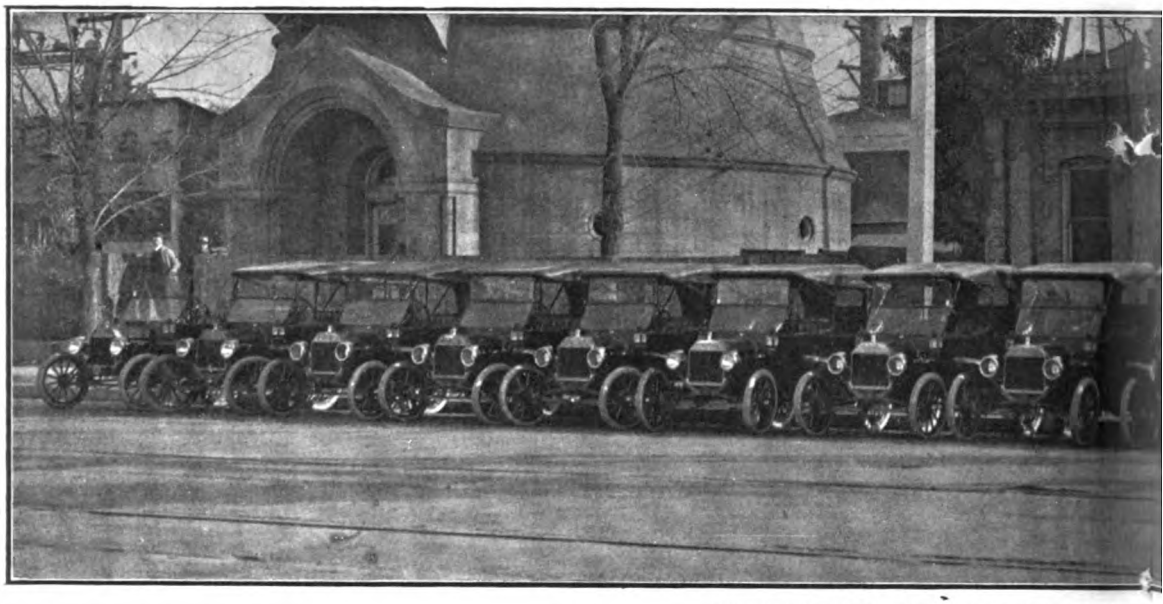
The San Joaquin Light and Power Corporation placed another town upon its map the first week in January, when Livingston was connected by a 10,000 volt distribution line. Many of the buildings and offices in the town had been made ready to receive the current as soon as it was turned on and when this event occurred, there was general rejoicing among the residents. The enthusiastic citizens are now providing street lights, and the owners of new town sites and farm property in the vicinity are making arrangements for the extension of the service lines to those tracts. The line was built under the supervision of R. Casad, the company agent at Merced. Mr. Casad began securing the rights of way in October and construction work was ordered begun about a month later. The line leaves the Merced sub-station in a due westerly direction and then turns to the north to pass through Atwater. It is eighteen miles in length.

Atwater Takes Rapidly to Use of Electricity

Atwater, in Merced county, is the scene of much power installation and the benefits of electricity are rapidly being recognized in this thriving little town. Emery and White have just installed a 3 horse-power motor on a 2½ inch pump with which they will irrigate forty acres. They have constructed a spacious reservoir and have an ideal plant in every way. George Bloss is making use of a 3 horse-power motor for garden and domestic use. He has well equipped his place and expects good results. Thomas and Newhall, proprietors of the new planing mill which has only recently been completed, have installed a 5 horse-power motor to operate their establishment. A planing mill has been a much needed institution in Atwater, and the owners expect to do a fine business.

Generated on 2024-07-26 23:19 GMT / https://hdl.handle.net/2027/uc1.b2869477
Public Domain, Google-digitized / http://www.hathitrust.org/access_use#pd-google
Digitized by Google
Original from UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA

1913 Campaign is Begun by the Delivery of Thirteen



FLEET OF 1913 MACHINES ON DAY OF

TO open the 1913 campaign for more power and light consumers, the San Joaquin Light and Power Corporation has placed an order for thirteen new automobiles, four of which are Cadillacs and the remaining nine Fords. This fleet of cars was delivered to the company at the central garage in Fresno during the early part of January and now all of the machines are in service.

This is only the first shipment of new automobiles for 1913. Orders for additional cars have already been placed and still more will be needed later on. Before the end of the year the company's auto vehicles will undoubtedly exceed one hundred.

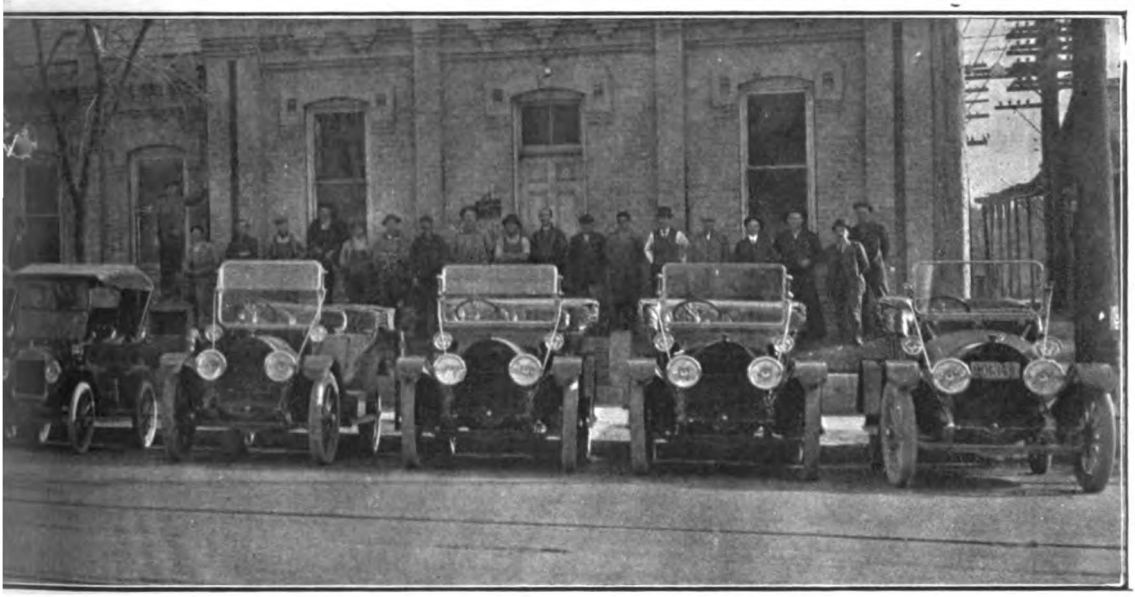
The San Joaquin Light and Power Corporation is one of the largest users of the motor vehicle in the state. At the present time sixty-nine automobiles and ten motorcycles are in the service. The automobiles are used by the department heads, district agents, salesmen, repairmen and construction crews, while the motorcycles are the conveyances of the "trouble shooters," the men who run down trouble on the transmission and distribution lines.

Two well equipped garages are maintained, with large working forces for the care of the machines, one in Fresno and the other in Bakersfield. Combined with them are machine shop and blacksmith shop. The garage in Bakersfield was constructed last year, and plans have been accepted for the construction of a new garage and machine shop in Fresno which will provide one of the most modern establishments of its kind in the state.

Employed in the Fresno garage are eighteen men. In the above picture, reading from right to left across both pages they are, M. E. Johnston, assistant foreman; A. G. Rose, superintendent of garage and machine shops; R. B. Bonney, foreman garage and machine shops; R. L. Douglass, salesman; Frank Ridge, former driver for A. G. Wishon and now agent for Caruthers district; R. L. Wolfe, bookkeeper; Jess Rose, repairman; Marvin Shusberry, pump man; R. A. Powers,

Generated on 2024-07-26 23:19 GMT / https://hdl.handle.net/2027/uc1.b2869477
Public Domain, Google-digitized / http://www.hathitrust.org/access_use#pd-google
Digitized by Google
Original from UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA

Latest Model Automobiles for the Company's Workers



DELIVERY AT THE FRESNO GARAGE

repairman; T. J. Perez, blacksmith; S. J. Smith, machinist; R. E. Stevens, repairman; Fay Strain, helper; Eddie Foure, helper; Harley Eaton, helper; Henry Jansen, helper; Gus Gumett, storekeeper; Charles Dawson, repairman, and George Prather, repairman.

Of the new cars, the first received, a Cadillac four-passenger torpedo roadster, is for the use of A. E. Wishon, assistant general manager. The three remaining new Cadillacs were turned over to E. B. Walthall, assistant manager; L. N. Peart, general superintendent, and J. B. Carter, agent for the Taft district. The new Fords are numbered beginning with 189 and are distributed as follows: 189, O. A. Kummers, agent Chowchilla; 190, George Bernard, agent Madera; 191, Frank Ridge, agent Caruthers; 192, J. M. Buswell, general inspector; 193, W. A. Purcell, suburban agent Bakersfield; 194, C. L. Easton, electrical superintendent Bakersfield; 195, floor car, Fresno garage; 196, Charles McCardle, agent Dinuba.

Automobile Road Opened Between Valley and Coast

The acceptance of the new ten mile stretch of Parkfield road between Coalinga and Parkfield, gives the automobilists a fine highway between the coast and the San Joaquin Valley. The road goes by way of San Luis Obispo and connects at that point with the fine highways north and south. The new stretch of road is built over a 7½ per cent grade and is the completing link in the short cut over the mountains from the coast to the valley.

Generated on 2024-07-26 23:19 GMT / https://hdl.handle.net/2027/uc1.b2869477
Public Domain, Google-digitized / http://www.hathitrust.org/access_use#pd-google
Digitized by Google
Original from UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA

San Joaquin Light & Power Magazine

Published in the Interest of the Consumers and Employees of the San Joaquin Light & Power Corporation

I. W. ALEXANDER, Editor and Manager

Published by the San Joaquin Light & Power Corporation
Fresno, California

Advertising rates upon application.
Subscription, fifty cents a year.
All communications should be addressed San Joaquin Light & Power Magazine, Fresno, Cal.

VOL. I JANUARY No. I

FOREWORD

In beginning the publication of the Magazine, the San Joaquin Light and Power Corporation hopes to be of service to its employees and to its consumers in acquainting them with matters of interest and instruction pertaining to their daily vocations. For the mutual benefit of all concerned, the development of the San Joaquin Light and Power Corporation will be closely followed. What the power company is, what it is doing, and what it plans to do are matters which spell for the future greatness of the territory which it serves.

The farmer undisputably is the most important factor in the development of the country, and upon his success depends the future of the state. Statistics have been compiled which prove that when one new farmer comes into the country, two men more are needed in the city to keep this farmer going. An increase in the number of farmers, therefore, means an influx of population in the cities; a better and more prosperous California.

To this end the San Joaquin Light and Power Corporation is directing its energy. A far-reaching campaign is in progress from one end of the valley to the other and from the Sierras to the coast. Power is being placed on scores of newly opened up tracts which, sooner or later, are to be offered to the settler. The advent of power will provide a sufficient and reliable source of water. Plenty of water means successful farming and with the assurance of regular crops upon territory that heretofore has been arid, or flourished only to the degree of nature's own irrigation, settlement will speedily follow. The magazine will follow this development of the land; progress will be recorded by picture and story, and decisions of interest and benefit to the agriculturalist and horticulturalist, reached by the State and National Experimental Stations, will be published.

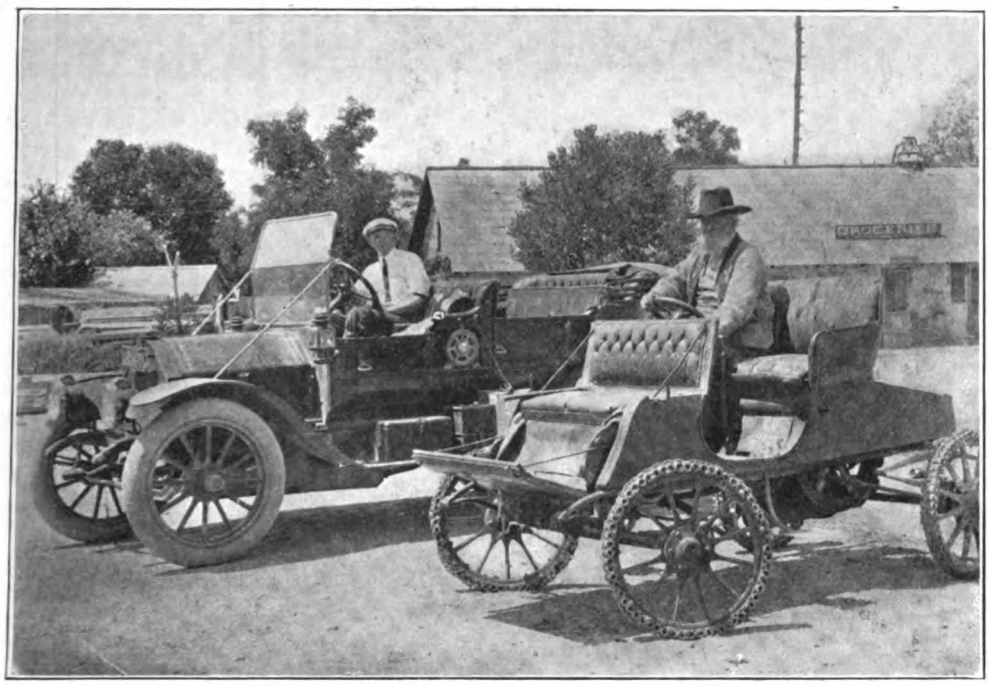
It is proper that the men and women working in the many different departments of the San Joaquin Light and Power service know what is being done in other departments, the existence of which they are cognizant of, but of the workings of which they know little or nothing. To this end the extensions of the service, the manner in which plants are operated, lines strung, and electric equipment in general installed will be described from time to time, together with other events of interest in the construction era.

The magazine, it is hoped, will become a popular department in the company's service. There is much to tell of what the consumers and employees are doing, and efforts will be made for each succeeding issue to be more interesting than the last. The co-operation of the employees is invited in this work. Interesting photographs of the company activity and notices of the doings of the men and women in the service will be gladly received for publication; also expressions of opinion on questions of general interest. In the service there may be many undeveloped Edisons, obscure because lacking the opportunity to make known their ideas, and through a medium of this kind it is possible to get much valuable knowledge from the observations and experiences of the boys who are daily handling electricity.

It is no small task to launch a publication, but firms and institutions, who have an interest in the great San Joaquin Valley, have been quick to recognize the possibilities and advantages to them of a publication like the Magazine, and the responses, to the announcement that this publication would appear, have been numerous and gratifying.

Generated on 2024-07-26 23:19 GMT / https://hdl.handle.net/2027/uc1.b2869477
Public Domain, Google-digitized / http://www.hathitrust.org/access_use#pd-google
Digitized by Google
Original from UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA

First Automobile on Mojave Desert Still in Use —It's Quaint Innovation



Desert Pioneer In His Automobile Which Has Garden Hose for Tires

In this day and age it is the tendency to discard the old for the new, but in the little town of Willow Springs, on the edge of the Mojave desert, there is an exception to the rule, and the first automobile that ever came to that desert stretch is still in use, although some of the parts have been slightly modified.

The above illustration shows the machine beside one of the new medium priced touring cars which are offered automobilists of today. The pioneer machine is a one-cylinder, friction drive. It has stood up under the wear and tear of years and, according to the owner, is now in better shape than at the time he purchased it. Naturally, the first parts to give way were the tires, but they have been ingeniously replaced by pieces of one-half inch common garden hose. These pieces are laid around the rim and held in place by a chain, which in turn is bolted to the rim.

"I will guarantee," said the owner, "that my machine has the most even running tires and they will give the longest life of any tire on the desert. I can run on sandy or rocky road, in mud and water, and the machine will not skid the least particle. In fact I cannot tell the difference between one kind of road and another, the car rides so evenly."

The above picture was taken by J. M. Buswell, Chief Inspector, while on a tour of the company's plants last summer in making an appraisal. The owner of the machine is a quaint character and in addition to his interesting vehicle, owns and maintains a small electric light plant, a blacksmith shop, general merchandise store, and is also the custodian of the United States mail at the desert watering place.

Generated on 2024-07-26 23:19 GMT / https://hdl.handle.net/2027/uc1.b2869477
Public Domain, Google-digitized / http://www.hathitrust.org/access_use#pd-google
Digitized by Google
Original from UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA

Generated on 2024-07-26 23:20 GMT / https://hdl.handle.net/2027/uc1.b2869477
Public Domain, Google-digitized / http://www.hathitrust.org/access_use#pd-google

MEMBERS OF THE FRESNO OFFICE FORCE

This Group contains only the Company Family stationed at the General Office. A score more are at the Sub-station, Water Tower, Garage, Machine, and Blacksmith Shops

Digitized by Google
Original from UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA

One Hundred Persons Required to Conduct Business of Fresno General Offices

ATTACHED to the Fresno office of the San Joaquin Light and Power Corporation are more than one hundred persons. Here are the headquarters for the operating, maintenance, accounting, purchasing and construction departments. Every point in the system, from the power plants in the high Sierras, to the agents in the extreme ends of the valley, is in constant touch with the central offices by the private telephone line which goes wherever the power distributing lines are strung.

General Manager A. G. Wishon supervises the administration of the service and he is aided by Assistant General Manager A. Emory Wishon in organization and operative work, and Assistant General Manager E. B. Walthall, who attends to the new business. L. N. Peart is General Superintendent, J. E. Burgess Superintendent of Construction, and E. J. Crawford Superintendent of Operation. W. E. Durfey, Assistant Secretary of the company, is in charge of the records and credits; C. P. Staal is company Auditor and supervises the accounting department. J. H. Newlin is Purchasing Agent, E. D. Farrow, Jr., General Agent, and S. W. Dietrich, Electrical Superintendent of the Fresno District. Each executive has his office staff.

In the general office the accounts of the electric and water service of Fresno are kept, in addition to the general accounts of the company. The territory is divided into sixteen distinct districts, and each is in charge of an agent who attends to all the business of the district, maintaining office accounts and as far as possible relieving the general office of all detail. All reports, however, are made to Fresno. Connected with the Fresno office are the following:

Ashley, Paul
Alexander, I. W.
Beuthel, Ray
Babcock, M. S.
Babcock, Pearl
Burgess, J. E.
Bonney, R. B.
Barrett, Geneva
Bronson, Mrs. H.
Brawdy, W. J.
Bennett, Jane
Bennie, William A.
Buswell, J. M.
Beatty, George
Carpenter, A. B.
Carpenter, Mrs. A. B.
Crawford, E. J.
Cutter, P.
Dietrich, S. W.
De Groot, J. E.
Durfey, W. E.
Douglas, R. L.
Dickson, C. C.
Dorsey, John J.
Ellis, E.
Elam, Mai
Erwin, E. S.
Elwell, Ora
Ellithorpe, E. Pearl
Estes, Wm.
Fitzgerald, Winifred
Frazee, V. R.
Faxon, W. R.
Forcey, H. W.
Farrow, Jr., E. D.
Fontaine, Viola H.
Gallup, Herbert S.
Glavinovich, L. V.
Harrison, Mamie
Helwick, J. W.
Hobday, G. E.
Hawthorne, Wm. J.
Hughes, E. A.
Hickman, Nira G.
Hansen, Ed. C.
Jacobs, W. L.
Jones, R. G.
Jones, W. A.
Johnston, P. H.
Kern, Harry L.
King, Nell E.
Lamour, Mrs. E. A.
Lack, A. R.
Lamkin, Mortimer
Lander, Ed.
McCabe, E. Newton
Martin, L. C.
Martin, D. W.
McKenzie, W. H.
McCuller, W. C.
Mason, D. F.
Mackey, J. J.
Moore, L. J.
Merrill, F. B.
Marley, Lew
Morton, Ray
Mann, Wesley
Newlin, J. H.
Newlin, M. E.
North, Ben
O'Melveny, Guy
Osborne, Rose
Parks, W. G.
Peart, L. N.
Phillips, S. A.
Price, Lily M.
Patterson, S. B.
Patterson, W. R.
Purcell, Josie
Rawlins, Chas. M.
Rose, A. G.
Stevens, L.
Smith, E. P.
Sweeney, J. J.
Spears, H.
Strahan, J. E.
Staal, C. P.
Sellers, Grace
Simpson, P. F.
Stockholm, Carl
Sigmond, H.
Turner, F. M.
Van Buren, R. A.
Van Buren, Ruth
Van Buren, E. C.
Vanderpool, John
Wilson, Paul B.
Wallace, V. H.
Walthall, E. B.
Wishon, A. G.
Wishon, A. E.
Zimmerman, J. H.

Generated on 2024-07-26 23:20 GMT / https://hdl.handle.net/2027/uc1.b2869477
Public Domain, Google-digitized / http://www.hathitrust.org/access_use#pd-google
Digitized by Google
Original from UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA

Coast Counties Oilmen and Ranchers Are Much Interested in New Motive Power

E. D. FARROW, JR., General Agent of the San Joaquin Light and Power Corporation, has been spending several weeks on the coast conducting an investigation of the business that will be taken on by the company as soon as the new Santa Maria power line is ready for operation. He has spent considerable time in the agricultural district and among the oil producers, interesting them in the possibilities of electricity as an aid in their work. There is particular interest in the oil field section owing to the success attained by the electric drilling and pumping motor in the San Joaquin Valley oil fields. Mr. Farrow reports that by 1914 he expects that fully one hundred pumping motors will be in operation in Lompoc and Santa Maria oil fields.

He also reports an increasing interest in alfalfa raising and particularly in the upper Santa Maria Valley, where many of the ranches are preparing to plant large acreages. At the present time the crops are largely grain and beans. Water stands about fourteen feet along the river and about sixty feet on the higher ground, making pumping an attractive proposition.

The experiments of J. W. Goodchild, on section 16-19-31, who has twenty acres in alfalfa, shows the possibilities in this vicinity. This season Mr. Goodchild cut five crops and while he fed the hay, he says he is sure it would have averaged from one and three-fourths to two tons per acre each cutting. He also states he could easily have cut more but he turned his stock into the field. This season he will put sixty-seven acres more in alfalfa and will use a ten horse-power motor as soon as the service can be given him.

In the Oso Flaco District onions, potatoes and grain appear to be the principal crops. The ranchers have been obtaining from 150 to 350 sacks of onions to the acre, from 50 to 150 sacks of potatoes, and from 35 to 60 sacks of grain. One piece of land in this territory has been devoted to beet raising for the last twelve years and has never produced less than twenty-five tons to the acre. Altogether Mr. Farrow reports conditions are very favorable for the advent of electric power, and he anticipates great results from its use.

Tobacco Expert Will Aid Dinuba Growers This Season

That the experiments in Turkish tobacco raising near Dinuba last season were a success, and that the possibilities of this section becoming a heavy tobacco raising district are promising, is indicated by an educational campaign to be launched by the American Tobacco Company in the valley community. A tobacco expert is to be in Dinuba this season instructing the planters and giving all the information possible in regard to the growing and curing of the plant. It is expected that a much larger acreage will be planted this season and if the anticipated results are obtained, the growing of tobacco may become a great industry in the valley.

Generated on 2024-07-26 23:20 GMT / https://hdl.handle.net/2027/uc1.b2869477
Public Domain, Google-digitized / http://www.hathitrust.org/access_use#pd-google
Digitized by Google
Original from UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA

The Latest Annexations, or the Coast Division of the San Joaquin Light and Power Corporation

By JACK FROST, District Agent Santa Maria
Former Manager Paso Robles Light and Water Company

Our most respected Assistant General Manager, Mr. A. Emory Wishon, has what I suppose he thinks, a most keen sense of humor. From the standpoint of the writer not much is thought of his humor. The grief on my mind is this: I am called to the 'phone in answer to a long distance call, less than half an hour ago, and requested, no ordered, to get out an article for our magazine and be sure to have it in the next mail.

No instructions as to what sort of an article, or how short or how long; just an article, any old sort of an article. Well there is a little satisfaction in being at liberty to choose one's subject.

Some months ago, last March to be more exact, a gentleman of some proportions, with an automobile cap on the back of his head and a big cigar surrounded by a happy and expansive smile, appeared before me in my humble office. He passed out a card:

A. G. Wishon
General Manager
San Joaquin Light & Power Co.

Both he and the card looked good to me and I think I told him so, anyway I thought it. That card looked to me like there might be something doing in the way of a high line for the coast territory, and I began to look up and take notice.

Mr. Wishon accepted my invitation to come in and sit down and we talked; that is I listened and I listened to something, too. He told me of the expansion of the San Joaquin Light and Power Corporation, and of the development of that wonderful valley from which the company gets its name. He told me of the electric pumping plants for irrigation and numerous other things that were instructive and very interesting to the writer.

I had sat in my office in Paso Robles for months trying to run a poor, miserable, little steam plant and was becoming more discouraged every day on account of the limited scope that a small plant has in a small community. I always had dreams and visions of the time that might arrive when a power line would come into the upper Salinas Valley and develop it as only a power line can develop a country.

From the time of my first interview with Mr. Wishon things began to happen. The plants at Paso Robles, San Miguel, San Luis Obispo, Arroyo Grande and Santa Maria were purchased in order, and plans for the extension of the San Joaquin system into the coast territory were laid.

Beginning the new year, ten months only after my first interview with Mr. Wishon, finds the town of Paso Robles connected to the San Joaquin system with the sixty thousand volt high line and all the adjacent country and small towns surrounding having the benefits of twenty-four-hour electric service at an average cut in rates of something like thirty per cent.

I do not believe that the average citizen realizes the great benefit that a service of this kind is to a community. It gives the small towns electric service for lighting and power that they could never hope to have from a small local plant. The very small central electric station is always a failure financially, due to the fact that its scope for business is necessarily limited and high rates are necessary to keep it in operation. The high rates exclude business and it is impossible to expand and get more business at a

Generated on 2024-07-26 23:20 GMT / https://hdl.handle.net/2027/uc1.b2869477
Public Domain, Google-digitized / http://www.hathitrust.org/access_use#pd-google
Digitized by Google
Original from UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA

lower rate, due to high operating costs and poor financial standing.

The farmer is directly benefited by the coming of an electric power line into his country, for he is enabled to procure power for pumping water on his land at a lower rate than he can pump in any other way. Cheap power makes his land produce more, and greater production means the increased valuation of the property.

The construction of the main transmission line is progressing rapidly down the coast and before the winter months leave us the entire country south of Paso Robles to Santa Maria should be connected up. This will open a vast district for the power company and lay before the citizens of that territory a greater helper and developer than they probably imagine at this time.

In the upper Salinas Valley there are thousands of acres of land, level and irrigable, and suitable to more valuable crops than those now raised. A few owners will start and others will follow with irrigation, and it is safe to say that within the next five years thousands of acres will be producing four times what they now are. Our best business men are quick to see the advantage of electric power and it is gratifying to the company to see that one progressive dairyman had the line built onto his property and had contracted for his electric installation even before the company had the power turned into the new line. I refer to D. W. Horsburgh's Santa Ysabel Ranch near Paso Robles.

The same will hold good for the country about San Luis Obispo, for the Arroyo Grande Valley, the Santa Maria Valley and for portions of the country to the east that is now looked upon as barren due to the fact that rains are light and irrigation has never been attempted.

In the Santa Maria oil fields great benefits will be derived from the introduction of electric power, both from the point of the oil producers and the power company. The value of electric power for the pumping of oil wells has been demonstrated in the oil fields of the San Joaquin Valley and its introduction into Santa Maria is bound to come quickly. The great economy of electric power over any other form of drive has been demonstrated beyond all doubt and the oil men of the Santa Maria field will be quick to grasp this point. From the standpoint of the electric company it is the finest sort of business, as it is almost always continuous twenty-four-hour load, and that form of business is one that is entitled to and gets a very low rate.

The construction of an electric transmission line is a real man's job in itself. From the conception of a line to its final completion, difficulties and work—real work—are encountered never dreamed of by the majority of people, who mechanically reach out and turn on a switch to get their light.

When you consider the mountain ranges that are crossed to bring these lines from their source of power to the latest consumer, and hike a few of them yourself, you will realize that what I say is true. It is a real man's job to build a transmission line.

The delivery of material alone is something to think of. In some of the places along the new coast line, it has taken as many as twelve horses to get a single pole to its location. In other places it has taken about two bosses to get one man to a stake and convince him that all he had to do was to dig a six-foot hole in the rock and that it was not much of a job anyhow. In some of these places if Mr. Man should happen to go to sleep on his digging bar he might roll down the side of the hill. But then all he would have to do would be to crawl back to his digging bar and try it over.

I have the greatest of respect for the the men who dig these holes. I always did respect them but my feelings now may be termed admiration as the result of an experience on a hot day last summer. I was walking the line between Coalinga and the Stone Canyon Coal Mine. It is a nice little

Generated on 2024-07-26 23:20 GMT / https://hdl.handle.net/2027/uc1.b2869477
Public Domain, Google-digitized / http://www.hathitrust.org/access_use#pd-google
Digitized by Google
Original from UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA

hike. You climb straight up nearly three thousand feet in about two miles of line.

All I had to do was hike. But I passed a gang of men who were doing more. They were digging six-foot holes in nice hard rock. They got a beautiful view of the San Joaquin Valley though, and that is something to look at on a clear summer's day.

Coalinga Oil Operators Favor Electric Pumping

Twelve of the eighteen motors which have been ordered by the Zier Oil Company, on section 1, 20-14, have been installed and are now in operation. Superintendent Max Scott is entirely satisfied with the results of the electric equipment and he finds that he is able to pull rods and tubing in very much less time than when steam was his motive power.

Electricity is becoming a big factor on the Guthrie and Maine State property, section 31, 19-15. Superintendent Mitchell has just placed orders for two more motors and a main line pump. One of the motors, an 8½ horse-power, is to be installed on a new well recently brought in, while the other motor, a 20 horse-power, and pump will be placed on the water line. At present there are 3 10-30 horse-power oil well motors and one 10 horse-power motor on the water well.

A 20 horse-power motor has just been installed on a pumping jack for the Berkeley-Coalinga Oil Company on section 2, 21-14, and General Manager Hunter finds that the cost of production on the property under the new system is much less than under the old.

F. V. Boller, agent of the San Joaquin Light and Power Corporation in the Coalinga district, is supervising the construction of 3½ miles of 10,000 volt distribution line to the property of the Continental Oil Company on section 2, 19-15. The oil company has ordered seven 10-30 horse-power oil well pumping motors which will be placed in operation as soon as possible. The M. K. & T. Oil Company, on section 8, 20-15, has contracted for a 150 horse-power motor to run the big air compressor now being installed on that property. Colonel D. M. DeLong, superintendent of the property, expects that the plant will be in operation early in February.

Cover Picture is of the Chilcoot Lake Reservoir

The picture on the cover of this month's issue of the Magazine is of the Chilcoot Lake reservoir, which is one of the feeders of the main Crane Valley Lake, from which the water is obtained to operate the power houses. Chilcoot Lake reservoir is a beautiful spot 7,000 feet above sea level. It is at the head of the north fork of the north fork of the San Joaquin River. The photograph gives a good idea of the lake, in the foreground, and the watershed, in the background.

First Twenty Deep Wells at La Hacienda Pumping

The big La Hacienda Ranch of 15,000 acres, southwest of Alpaugh, is at the present time drilling twenty wells that will be pumped with electric power, furnishing water to the entire tract. The pole line is complete and the first well should be put in operation by the first of February. The wells are approximately 1100 feet deep and artesian, but will be pumped, as by pumping them the present flow will be increased from three to five times.

Generated on 2024-07-26 23:20 GMT / https://hdl.handle.net/2027/uc1.b2869477
Public Domain, Google-digitized / http://www.hathitrust.org/access_use#pd-google
Digitized by Google
Original from UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA

NEWS AROUND THE LOOP

Assistant General Manager Walthall spent a week early in the month in a tour over the southern end of the territory in the interest of new business for the company. Mr. Walthall traveled in his automobile and happened to be on tour during the historical cold spell. He was in the mountain region around Tehachapi and also further south on the desert at Lancaster. The trip will always be remembered by him on account of the severe cold experienced. Development in the southern part of the valley, Mr. Walthall reports, is going forth in rapid strides. In the vicinity of Lancaster there is much settling and in the Tehachapi Mountain valley each season finds more additions to the cultivated area.

Auditor C. P. Staal was confined to his home by illness for a week in the early part of January.

Purchasing Agent J. H. Newlin made a trip to Los Angeles early in the month in the interest of company business.

General Agent E. D. Farrow, Jr., escorted a party of Santa Maria oil men on a trip to the Midway oil fields early in the month for the purpose of inspecting the use of electricity in oil well drilling and pumping in the southern fields. The Santa Maria oil men are very much interested in the extension of the San Joaquin Light and Power lines to their territory and many companies will immediately connect their properties with the service distribution lines as soon as the service is ready.

Charles Easton, for many years connected with the San Joaquin power house, and now electrical superintendent at Bakersfield, was in Fresno several weeks ago.

D. L. Wishon, chief engineer in charge of the company's operations on the Tule River, made several trips to Fresno this month to consult with local officials in regard to the work.

Mrs. J. M. Buswell, wife of Chief Inspector Buswell, and little daughter, arrived in Fresno from Berkeley and are now comfortably domiciled here.

Frank Ridge, for several years past driver for General Manager A. G. Wishon, received promotion the first of the year and is now District Agent at Caruthers. While in the service of Mr. Wishon this official was attracted by the many strong qualities of the young man. Mr. Wishon was certain that when he was informed as to the business details of his new post, Frank would make good, and the young man's many friends in the service entertain the same opinion.

L. V. Glavinovich is one of the most recent additions to the Fresno office and is engaged in plant appraisal work.

R. Casad, District Agent at Merced, was in the Fresno office on business this month.

D. C. Benjamin, assistant bookkeeper and collector of the Merced office, has purchased a neat bungalow in the northern town, and expects to make Merced his home for some time to come.

Otto Griffith, manager of the Merced office, and Mrs. Griffith are now comfortably settled in apartments in Merced.

The new Atwater-Livingston lines completed, J. Archbald, the foreman of the construction crew in the Merced district, is now attending to construction work of lesser importance.

A. J. Jodon resigned his position as District Agent at Santa Maria the 15th of January to embark in the electrical installation business in Santa Maria.

Harry Jastro, commercial manager of the Bakersfield district, has installed an electric stove in his re-

Generated on 2024-07-26 23:20 GMT / https://hdl.handle.net/2027/uc1.b2869477
Public Domain, Google-digitized / http://www.hathitrust.org/access_use#pd-google
Digitized by Google
Original from UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA

cently completed residence and is now making elaborate tests of its operation.

E. L. Forbes, formerly chief clerk at Paso Robles, resigned early this month to accept a position in South America. He has been succeeded by M. Worden.

A. M. Frost, formerly District Agent at Paso Robles, has been transferred to Santa Maria where he is in charge of the district in the place of R. P. Jodon, resigned.

K. B. Glass has been appointed District Agent at Paso Robles. Mr. Glass was formerly foreman of the Paso Robles District and when Mr. Frost was transferred to Santa Maria, Mr. Glass was promoted.

Ten men are employed at the pole treating plant and crossarm sawmill at San Miguel, which is in charge of W. L. Wheaton. All of the poles and crossarms used in the coast division construction work are treated and made ready for use at this point.

Line Foreman C. V. Hurley and a force of twenty-five men are at work stringing 60,000 volt transmission lines and secondary lines between Templeton and Paso Robles. The camp which has been at Templeton for some time past has been moved to Santa Margarita. C. R. Stebbins is now supervising the coast construction work with offices at Paso Robles. It is expected that the 60,000 volt lines will be in San Luis Obispo early in February.

J. M. Webster, who is in charge of installing sub-stations, has been kept busy on the coast division. The substation at San Miguel has been completed, as have additions to the Paso Robles sub-station. The San Luis Obispo sub-station is practically completed and will be ready for operation as soon as the high voltage transmission lines reach that city. Work has not yet begun on the Santa Maria substation, but all materials have been ordered and Mr. Webster is prepared to begin just as soon as orders are given.

Frank Young, one of the oldest operators in the point of service in the San Joaquin Light and Power Corporation hydro-electric plants, resigned from service the 10th of this month and is now in the northern part of the state where he will enter business for himself. Edward Schylander is filling the vacancy caused by Mr. Young's resignation.

An interesting discovery was made at the Crane Valley dam this month when heavy oaken logs, which had been placed there more than two years ago for curing, were recovered during a period of low water. Submersion in water is the method adopted to cure hard lumber and after two winters at the Crane Valley dam, this oaken timber is said to be in fine condition for the furniture maker.

A. B. Bellows has returned to his post at the Fresno sub-station after a week's serious illness during which time he was threatened with pneumonia.

Percy Marks, the driver of General Superintendent Peart's new automobile, stole a march on his many friends Christmas Eve and claimed Miss Nettie Pauline for his wife.

The drafting room is to be removed from the central office to the substation where Guy O'Melveny and his assistants will have more room for their work in the future.

Monday, January 13th, work was begun on the new outdoor type substation being erected at Famosa. Charles Easton, electrical superintendent of the Bakersfield district, is in charge of the work. The sub-station will be equipped with waterproof outdoor transformers and the only building necessary will be to house the switches and control.

All material has been ordered and is now ready for shipment for the new sub-station at Caruthers. The capacity of the Copper Mine sub-station, the principal distribution point of the service, will be trebled and work to that end is now in progress. Its present capacity is rated at 1,000 kilowatts and three 1,000 kilowatt transformers have been ordered to take the place of the old equipment. The new transformers will be of the weather proof

Generated on 2024-07-26 23:20 GMT / https://hdl.handle.net/2027/uc1.b2869477
Public Domain, Google-digitized / http://www.hathitrust.org/access_use#pd-google
Digitized by Google
Original from UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA

outdoor type and the only additional building necessary will be a house for the oil switches and control for the bank of transformers.

A new sub-station is being constructed at Coalinga to connect to the new 60,000 volt transmission line to the coast. The transformers in the present sub-station at Coalinga will be discarded and shipped to Madera and other points in the territory where additional equipment is needed owing to the heavy increase in business in these districts. However, the old Coalinga sub-station will be retained for distribution use. There is at present two lines into Coalinga. One 60,000 volt line to the coast and another transmission line of 30,000 volts which terminates at Coalinga.

The installation of additional transformer capacity has just been completed at Corcoran and additional automatic switches have also been installed at Hanford and Corcoran to more readily sectionalize the district for distribution purposes in the event of transformer troubles.

An interesting story of the loyalty of the boys in the gang to their foreman comes from Bakersfield. Last month Jerry La Marsna, who is one of the most popular and well liked "rawhiders" on the system, was so unfortunate as to lose his home by fire. His residence and its contents were practically a total loss. The boys on Jerry's gang were quick to sympathize with him and they immediately made up a purse of $100 which they presented to their foreman. In view of the fact that Jerry carried $1800 insurance on the residence, he declined the contribution of the boys with his sincere thanks, but the gang was not to be stopped at this. They were determined that Jerry should have some token of their respect and esteem and they accordingly devoted the money to buying a suitable present to be placed in Jerry's new home. Jerry says he will prize the gift as long as he lives.

Miss Edith Dutcher has entered the employ of the Fresno office to fill the vacancy caused by the resignation of Mrs. Plezzie C. Turpin, who resigned to enter the employ of the Bank of Central California.

M. S. Babcock of the Fresno office has been in Taft for some time past on work connected with the southern office.

W. C. McCuller of the invoice department of the Fresno office has resigned to go to San Francisco.

V. R. Frazee, Traveling Auditor, spent several weeks in January in the coast districts and upon his return to the valley will be in the district immediately surrounding Fresno.

Miss V. H. Fontaine has accepted a position as stenographer in the Fresno office.

One of the latest additions to the Fresno office is Wesley Mann, who has been assigned to clerical work in connection with the plant appraisal.

The friends of Herbert S. Gallup, who is connected with the plant appraisal department in the Fresno office, are congratulating him upon his coming marriage to Miss Eda F. Smith, which is set for January 30th at the home of the bride's parents in Fresno. Rev. A. D. Smith, pastor of the First Baptist church and father of Miss Smith, will perform the ceremony. The young couple will make their home in Fresno where they have a very large circle of friends who are wishing them every happiness in the future.

George L. Howard, District Agent at San Luis Obispo, writes the following: "The completion of the high line is being eagerly looked for by both city and county residents in this district. The former class is anxious to get the benefit of the lower lighting rates that will soon be effective, and the indirect benefits derived from the increased prosperity of the neighboring ranchers and dairymen, who will generally adopt the electric power.

"The rich valley around Arroyo Grande has already enjoyed some of the advantages of electric pumping,

Generated on 2024-07-26 23:20 GMT / https://hdl.handle.net/2027/uc1.b2869477
Public Domain, Google-digitized / http://www.hathitrust.org/access_use#pd-google
Digitized by Google
Original from UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA

and from numerous inquiries coming in from the adjoining country, it will be necessary for many secondary extensions to be built."

Jack Van Huysen, of the supply department of the General Electric Company, and R. O. Alton, of the small motor department of the same company, have been in Fresno and vicinity the greater part of January. These popular representatives of the General Electric Company will in the future make their headquarters in Fresno, according to their present plans.

The Midway oil fields was visited by a severe wind and sand storm on January 14th. R. E. Laird and Lee Dunham of the Taft office left the town of Lost Hills at 3 o'clock for Taft, taking the Lokern road to McKittrick. After crossing the railroad track at Lokern they lost the road, stopped their machine to get out and find the road and lost the machine. The boys were very much at sea for about one-half hour and declare that hereafter when they hunt a road they will do so in the machine.

The K. T. & O. Company will install a four-treater dehydrating plant on section 31-31-23.

A. L. Cheney, president of the Cheney-Stimson Oil Company, paid a visit to the Taft office last week in regard to the installation of six motors on his property.

Dover & Wilson are making extensive improvements and will increase their installation of lights about 3,000 watts. This will make their place the best lighted cafe on the West Side.

The United Oil Company is installing two 10-30 motors on their property at Shale.

Mr. Grant of the Westinghouse Electric & Manufacturing Company, has been in the Midway the past week.

C. H. Holbrook, president of the Dunlop Oil Company, visited Taft on Thursday of this week.

W. T. Williams and W. G. Dorris, formerly with the San Joaquin Light and Power Corporation in Taft, have gone into business for themselves. They intend to get a machine and handle inside wiring, line work and trouble from Sunset to Lost Hills.

J. E. Burgess, Superintendent of Construction, went to the coast district the middle of the month for a week's stay in overlooking work in progress there.

Many More Pump Installations in McFarland District

O. A. Walthall, agent for McFarland district, is making an enviable record for obtaining new business and within the last few weeks he has reported the installation of a number of good-sized pumping plants in the southern agricultural district.

Parks, Patterson and Ulery are at present very active on the old "Ranch Homes Tract" on sections 28, 32, 33, 27-24. They have completed the drilling of four wells and have placed pumps in three of them. A 25 horsepower motor is installed on one of the pumps and two more of similar capacity will be installed immediately. The owners plan a large alfalfa ranch and expect to have between 700 and 800 acres under cultivation this season. Mr. Ulery is personally conducting the work.

Another quarter section alfalfa farm is being put in by J. R. McKinn and J. R. Kane on the north-east quarter of section 26, 27-24 just west of the Palm Fruit Ranch. They have a good well and are installing a 20 horsepower motor.

The sub-division on the west half of section 36, 26-24, which has been in charge of J. R. Hayden, Industrial Agent of the Santa Fe Railroad, has been practically sold out and the new settlers expect to cultivate practically the entire tract this season. Mr. Hayden has developed a wonderful well which is pumped by a 30 horse-power motor and the output is easily more than one hundred inches.

Generated on 2024-07-26 23:21 GMT / https://hdl.handle.net/2027/uc1.b2869477
Public Domain, Google-digitized / http://www.hathitrust.org/access_use#pd-google
Digitized by Google
Original from UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA

To Our READERS

We desire to call your attention to the announcements of the business establishments, whom we are proud to have on our list of advertisers. Every patron of our advertising columns is a reliable and absolutely trustworthy firm and we are pleased to recommend each and every one of them to all persons having business in their particular lines. Should you address one of these firms as the result of attention directed through the columns of this magazine, you will confer a favor upon us by mentioning the

SAN JOAQUIN LIGHT & POWER MAGAZINE

Generated on 2024-07-26 23:21 GMT / https://hdl.handle.net/2027/uc1.b2869477
Public Domain, Google-digitized / http://www.hathitrust.org/access_use#pd-google
Digitized by Google
Original from UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA